



A NOTE FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OFFICE

Dear Parents,

This has been a busy week as I work with administration and teachers to begin planning for our return to face-to-face instruction. Since many students will not be able to be in Guangzhou or may choose to work from home, we are developing a 'hybrid' learning plan. This plan will allow students in school and at home to be exposed to the same learning objectives. Online learning and face-to-face instruction can never be the same, but the learning objectives can be.

As I have shared at a Parent Coffee, our written curriculum is based on learning objectives called Standards. We use standards for absolutely every aspect of learning: from social/emotional, PE, Art, Music, Chinese, Health - to - Math, Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Science and Social Studies. There are hundreds of these learning objectives for each grade level. This allows us to ensure that your child is learning whether online or in person.

What makes it difficult during online learning is that teachers are unsure how much the child does on their own and how much is with parent support. For a teacher to understand exactly what a child knows – or doesn't know – is critical in our school, as it drives what the teacher will do next. It also drives what a teacher says or does to support your child individually. This is why we do not want you to correct your child's work or support their learning (other than to answer clarifying questions about an assignment). Unlike when we were growing up and grades were based on the excellence of a finished product (thus parent help was critical), our grades are based on how deeply a student understands our learning objectives independently.

As we navigate the new way of doing things, we are about to have our first ever Virtual Spirit Week and Virtual assembly. As with all new endeavors, I have no idea how successful things will be, but like a true risk-taker, I will try! I look forward to seeing the students' photos and videos!

I would like to end this letter sharing an article that reminds us that even during these difficult times there is always a positive side: <https://www.altogethermostly.com/what-if-instead-of-behind-these-kids-are-ahead/>

Have a nice week, and thank you for your support.

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敬爱的家长：

这是一个忙碌的星期，因为我与管理层和老师们一起合作，开始计划我们回到面对面的教学。由于许多学生将不能在广州，或可能选择在家学习，我们正在制定一个“混合”的学习计划。这项计划将使在校和在家的学生能够接受到同样的学习目标。在线学习和面对面教学永远不可能一样，但学习目标是可行的。

正如我在家长座谈会上分享到的，我们的书面课程是基于学习目标，称为标准。我们对学习的各个方面都使用标准：从社交/情感、体育、艺术、音乐、中文、健康到数学、阅读、写作、口语、听力、科学和社会研究。每个年级都有数百个这样的学习目标。这使我们能够确保您的孩子在网上或亲自学习。

让在线学习变得困难的是，老师们不确定孩子们自己做了多少，有多少是在家长的支持下完成的。对于一个老师来说，准确地理解一个孩子知道或不知道什么，在我们学校是至关重要的，因为这会推动老师接下来要做什么。它也驱动着老师说什么或做什么来单独支持您的孩子。这就是为什么我们不希望您纠正您孩子的作业或支持他们的学习（除了回答有关作业的澄清问题）。不像我们成长时，成绩是建立在优秀的学习成品的基础上（因此家长的帮助至关重要），而我们的成绩是取决于学生对我们学习目标的独立理解程度。

当我们探索新的做事方式时，我们即将迎来我们第一个虚拟的主题周和虚拟的集会。和所有新的努力一样，我不知道事情会有多成功，但我会像一个真正的冒险者一样，去尝试！我期待看到学生们的照片和视频！

在这封信的结尾，我想分享一篇文章，提醒我们，即使在这些困难时期，也总有积极的一面：
<https://www.altogehatmostly.com/what-if-tead-of-behind-these-kids-are-ahead>

祝您度过愉快的一周，感谢您的支持。

Ms. Tatz



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