

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade News

May 1, 2020

It's May! It was seven weeks ago (03/12), that we were last together, sharing our usual Thursday schedule...we're sure your child remembers what "special" they had that day, but maybe not what was being served in the cafeteria or what the weather was like. At one moment, it seems like "it was just yesterday;" other times, it seems like a lifetime ago. We commend you all for your resilience and patience – we truly believe that, given the circumstances, we are each doing *the best that we can*.

**Coming up:** Next week, Bennett Student Council is sponsoring **Virtual Spirit Week**. Students are asked to share how they choose to celebrate with a picture or a short video clip (less than a minute)! As a reminder, the themes for each day are as follows:

**Monday: Star Wars, Star Trek, Star Gazing, "Reach for the Star"** – All things intergalactic and out of this world!

**Tuesday: Cinco de Mayo** – How do you celebrate? Taco Tuesday? A favorite recipe or activity?

**Wednesday: Read to your pet or stuffed animal** – what book do you share with your favorite, fluffy friend?

**Thursday: Jump into Spring – Move!** Do something physical and get fit.

**Friday: Friendly Friday** – reach out to a friend and share a "secret" message with someone special.

(Please send pictures and/or videos to Ms. Harkin – [aharkin@onteorak12.ny.us](mailto:aharkin@onteorak12.ny.us) )

**Mini group hang outs** also begin on Monday (05/04)! Check your student's Homeroom Classroom Folder for the assigned group. Students are invited to hang out with friends and discuss their thoughts about academics, social distancing, summer plans, and *more*.

Speaking of "hang outs," beginning next week, the **homeroom hang outs** will now take place on Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.

Subject-specific hang outs will remain as scheduled. Attending students report these hang outs to be "time well spent!" Discussions include tips on

completing assignments, as well as support in understanding academic expectations.

**Academics:** Student participation in "hang outs," as well as work completion, has lagged. We realize "remote learning" has been difficult, but allowing work to build up will cause students feel even more overwhelmed!

In **Google Classroom**, students can keep track of assignments utilizing their "To Do" list. If your student is unsure of how to use this online "planner," refer to the instructions posted in your child's Homeroom Classroom Folder.

In **Math**, students will be moving from calculating the surface area of nets to calculating the volume of shapes. Get ready for formulas in Geometry, and measurements in decimals, fractions and whole numbers! "Students are really becoming aware of how shapes can be unfolded and how they can be used in product design," Mr. LaMonda beamed. "I am equally impressed with how the students are using KAMI to represent their mathematical thinking. Keep up the good work!"

In **Science**, Mr. Downs reminds students to, "...get outside and garden!!! Use your observation skills to notice what is living in the garden. Make sure to add your findings to our shared garden slide show!"

In **Social Studies**, students continue to uncover the history mystery Mummy X.

In **Writing**, students are reminded about the following:

- **Weekly journal entries:** "Don't forget the criteria," Ms. Bruck reminds students. "And, please use the *current week* for journal entries." Many students are writing poems and employing other ways to express themselves.
- **Research projects:** Students are reminded to turn in their research proposals prior to researching, to make sure they are on the right path. Listed in the Writing Workshop Classroom, under the *Research Project* tab are many helpful resources.

In **Reading**, we are learning about the Social Issues that characters are facing, as well as the lessons authors are teaching, through characters' experiences. Each week, two lessons are presented, in which students are prompted to respond. Tuesday "Reading Circle/Hang Outs" are opportunities for students to further discuss the lessons.