

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome to Week 3 of distance learning! We are greatly missing our students and school. Even though we aren't together, we wanted to touch base to give families some updates about some changes we have made.

We are all creating a new normal, trying to balance family, school, and work. To find this new normal, students need to be on a general schedule. Having a schedule helps students prepare for new tasks and will help students acclimate when we are able to be back in school. Setting a schedule starts with students waking up at a reasonable time. Creating a schedule that takes into account school work but also builds in brain breaks and physical activity can be incredibly beneficial! Spending hours working on school work with no break might not be productive for everyone. We have created a template of a schedule that students can use to fill in information from teacher websites, helping them organize due dates and content.

We will be taking attendance every day using Achieve3000. Students must log in between 9-10AM to be marked present. Just by logging into Achieve they are marked present, they don't need to do any work (unless they want/need to). Teachers will update their website every week with current assignments and a helpful video. Some teachers may also use Blackboard, a virtual classroom setting where they can hold videos, notes, and assignments.

Parents, you are here to facilitate your student and provide them with a space and materials they need in order to be successful. Teachers are here to deliver content and provide students with clear expectations and support them when they are struggling. We know how stressful this time can be but please know how committed we are to helping our students! Teachers are all offering help sessions or office hours in a variety of ways. Some teachers will host Zoom office hours, where any student can come and get help. Other teachers will utilize one-on-one meetings in order to meet the needs of their students. Rest assured, our primary goal is to help our students during this difficult time.

If students are struggling, please have them contact their teacher. If a student has their own email address, please send it to philann.prendergast@sarasotacountyschools.net so TeacherEase can be updated. Teachers are available from 8-3 each day to offer support to their students and facilitate information.

Please know how much we miss our students and hope that everyone is happy and healthy! Please contact us with any questions or concerns and we will try to help to the best of our ability!

Sincerely,

Katie Hunt
Assistant Principal