



Dear Kindergarten Families,

I hope you're well and that your families and friends are healthy. As you know, Zoom meetings were introduced in the First School this week. We are truly entering a new realm and are grateful for the opportunity to see the children and hear their voices. As you can imagine, this entirely new undertaking taught us many lessons this week. We have had many conversations across the Division determining the best way forward and strategies for structuring virtual meetings with young children. We know this will continue to be an evolving situation but looking into the week ahead, the Kindergarten Zoom meetings will slightly change in format. Here's what you can expect for the week of April 6:

- Your child's full homeroom class will meet on Tuesday, April 7 at the assigned time.
- On Wednesday, April 8 half the class will meet at the assigned time
- On Thursday, April 9 the other half of the class will meet at the assigned time

Your child's homeroom teacher will assign the half groups and post them in Seesaw. We will continue to assess the meeting structure and frequency to determine the best path forward.

Next week in addition to your child's homeroom teachers, Mr. Dan and Mrs. Kraynak will join a meeting. Other teachers such as Mrs. Bright, Ms. Meyer and Mrs. Crooks will also join in the future.

A large part of managing distance learning is learning the technology. The teachers have learned so much in recent weeks. However, there are times when the technology is unreliable. That happened this week with Mrs. Bushmann's Zoom calls. During each meeting, there was a period of time when her computer was unresponsive and she was unable to see the children and they were unable to see her. Fortunately Mrs. Blackstone was able to take the reins so the meeting could continue. Our IT team is working to determine the problem with Mrs. Bushmann's computer.

An update regarding Kindergarten materials: we are gathering a new Write About It book, math and phonics workbooks and numeral and alphabet guides for each child. For those in the immediate Annapolis area, your items may be hand delivered, for those further away, the items will be sent through the mail. We anticipate items to be sent/delivered by the middle of next week.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Many thanks,

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