

MAUREEN KNOWLTON, Principal
mknowlton@millisschools.org



PHONE: 508-376-7014
FAX: 508-376-7020

MILLIS MIDDLE SCHOOL
245 Plain Street, Millis, MA 02054

March 18, 2020

Dear Middle School families,

I hope this finds you all healthy and making the best of this uncertain time. This is a follow-up to Superintendent Gustafson's letter of yesterday with some additional information regarding Middle School.

We have been collaborating to coordinate learning activities and resources for practice and engagement to help teachers stay connected to your children during this period of extended school closure. Information is coming so rapidly that it is difficult to forecast what we are planning for. When we left school last Friday we anticipated a week off; now we will be closed for three weeks, per the Governor's order. We will do our best to provide some ongoing continuity of learning.

What should you expect?

Please watch for an email on Monday, March 23 from your child's grade level team with information on what they have prepared for students and how they will be communicating. As the superintendent noted, these learning experiences are not intended to replicate the regular school day, but rather they are an opportunity to provide continuity of learning and connectedness for our students. Teachers will be posting options and suggested activities and providing a means to check in with students on a weekly basis. The goal is to provide a total of 2-3 hours of engagement per day to help students stay engaged, not necessarily to make up for all of the days we miss.

Will students be assessed or graded?

No, students will not be assessed or graded on new learning while school is closed. These resources and opportunities are for enrichment, practice, reinforcement, or self-directed learning to keep students' brains active, and teachers will be providing ongoing feedback. We recognize that some students may not be able to complete all tasks under the circumstances, for a variety of reasons.

Small School, Big Family



Int'l Spanish Academy School

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Technology access

Since we are already using a blended learning approach in school, much of what will be shared is online so students will benefit from access to a device. If your child does not have any access to a device, please complete this Google Form to request one on loan from the school:

[Family Technology Requests](https://tinyurl.com/tccmh2x) (<https://tinyurl.com/tccmh2x>) Device pickup is expected to be early next week, and we will reach out to individual families to schedule this. We will also do our best to accommodate students who may not be able to work online from home.

Our primary goal during this uncertain time is to provide a connection to school for you and our students. We will be reaching out to you and our students in a variety of ways, through emails, videos, online classrooms, and social media. Some Middle School teachers have already posted resources on their Google Classroom or itsLearning pages. Please ask your child to check their school email daily and sign in to their classrooms. If they need their passwords for particular websites, they can email me or their teachers. Our aim is to be as responsive as possible!

Trimester 2 Report Cards

This Friday, March 20, marks the close of Trimester 2. We intend to hold to the scheduled timeline and are planning to do our best to issue report cards on Friday, March 27. If your child has a question about this, please encourage them to email the individual teacher. Given the circumstances we are prepared to be flexible.

If you have any questions or you need assistance, email is the best way at this time to contact me; please do not hesitate to reach out. I am thinking of all of you and holding on to a positive outlook! The future of the school year is a bit uncertain and we will adjust our course as needed.

Thank you and stay well,

Maureen Knowlton
Principal

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