

## **Crofton Meadows Elementary Weekly Wrap Up – Friday, April 10, 2020**

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Good Afternoon Crofton Meadows Elementary Families!

Here is your Weekly Wrap Up for the week ending Friday, April 10, 2020.

### **(School System Shutdown Edition!)**

**What's Happening** - As we finish our fourth week of school closure, I hope this newsletter finds you and your family safe and healthy. As it has been since the beginning of this crisis, our priority is the health and safety of our entire CMES community. Please know that we are here to help in anyway we can.

During the past week, teachers have been preparing report cards for the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period and providing online content for the student through the use of Google classroom. Report cards will be mailed directly from the Board of Education (similar to the way they do at the end of a school year) starting the week of April 20, 2020. We will also be emailing Principal Honor Roll and Honor Roll certificates to those students that have earned these awards.

The fourth marking period started for the students this past week. The teachers posted lessons and assignments in their Google classrooms. AACPS has tried very hard to make eLearning as flexible as possible considering all the demands that are on students and families at this time. Here is what to expect with eLearning:

- 1) Teachers have identified an instructional time (in the morning) and Office Hours (in the afternoon) and posted these times on in their Google classroom. These are times where the teacher will be available to support instruction or to “meet” with individual students or small groups of students to support their learning.
- 2) Teachers are posting two required lessons in their Google classroom each “school day”. These lessons are designed to take no longer than 1.5 hours including any independent work the student may need to complete. Students should complete these assignments at their convenience. It does not have to be at a specific time or day, but the assignments are required.
- 3) Teachers will follow an “A-Day/B-Day schedule. On an “A-Day” teachers will post a Language Arts lesson and a Science lesson. On a “B-Day” teachers will post a math lesson and a Social Studies lesson.

- 4) Cultural Arts activities are posted on the Cultural Arts Google classroom for students to access during the week.
- 5) Starting this coming week, one assignment in each of the fourth subjects listed above will be taken for a grade. The graded assignment will be identified by the teacher.
- 6) Teachers may also have additional opportunities posted in their Google classroom such as a Community Building Circle time, read alouds, or additional learning sessions. All these are OPTIONAL for students to do. We do not want to overwhelm students or families, so these assignments are available if a student wanted to do additional learning. These are not required and are not graded.
- 7) Any lesson or learning opportunity that a teacher conducts “live” will be recorded and posted on their Google classroom so other students can view it at their convenience.
- 8) Teachers will provide feedback on the required lessons.
- 9) Teachers will reach out to students and families if a student has not logged into their Google classroom in over a week. This is a way to make sure the students are still connected and are not having accessibility difficulties.

So, **the bottom line** is: Students are expected to complete only the required lessons posted in their teacher’s Google classroom. One lesson in each subject will have a graded activity (identified by the teacher) that is collected for the fourth marking period grades. Students can log into the Google classroom and complete the required assignments at their convenience (during the teacher’s instructional time, or in the evening or on the weekend.) There is no requirement that the student has to be logged into the Google classroom at a specific time.

Students and families need to understand that there are additional opportunities posted in their teacher’s Google classroom for students that want to engage in these activities. Do not get overwhelmed with these activities as they are optional. Student can do them if they want.

If at any time, a student or family has difficulty with eLearning, please reach out to the classroom teacher. If the teacher cannot provide the appropriate assistance, she/he will notify the appropriate staff member to assist the student or family. Please remember, we are here to help.

**Accessibility to the Google Classroom** - We are aware that some students still don’t have access to the internet or the google classroom. The CMES staff have reached out to all students that teachers have identified as students that have not connected to their Google classrooms with information about getting connected. (Please check your email or voicemail.) If you do not have access or have not been able to connect with your teacher’s Google classroom **AND** have not heard from someone from the school, please email me at [jtrumbule@aacps.org](mailto:jtrumbule@aacps.org). AACPS has

decided that eLearning is the way that the curriculum for the fourth marking periods will be made available to the students, so all students must be able to get online.

We are working hard to minimize the “bumps in the road” as we move forward. Please feel free to reach out to me ([jtrumbule@aacps.org](mailto:jtrumbule@aacps.org)) or Mrs. Morton ([kmorton@aacps.org](mailto:kmorton@aacps.org)) or your student’s classroom teacher, if you have any questions.

**CMES Office** - Please remember that the school office is closed and there is nobody there to answer the phones.

**AACPS is providing meals to children ages 3-18** - AACPS has 61 for meal distribution for any child ages 3-18 regardless of FARMS status. This meal distribution will continue during the extended shutdown. Check out [www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org) for located on the meal distribution sites.

**Schedule and Calendar Changes** - Please refer to [www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org) for up-to-date information on changes and cancelations to AACPS sponsored events.

### **CMES Events**

**Field Trips** – At the direction of the superintendent of AACPS, all field trips have been canceled. Any monies or fees that have been paid will be refunded as soon as possible.

**Assemblies, Clubs, Meetings, Events, etc.** – At the direction of the superintendent of AACPS, all meeting, assemblies, meetings, clubs, etc. have been canceled for the remainder of the school year.

**IEP and 504 Meetings** – All IEP and 504 will be scheduled either by a phone conference or a virtual meeting. The special education teachers will be reaching out to parents to make arrangements for these meetings.

**Science Fair** – The CMES Science Fair for this year will be OPTIONAL for all students, including those in grades 3-5. We are still looking for students that want to participate in the CMES Virtual Science Fair. If your student is interested in submitting a project, please complete the application by following this link

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-IPWWc9GL\\_o1ZGXS1IWLeQsKzxs-tNrzeENQeWgbyCP9Og/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-IPWWc9GL_o1ZGXS1IWLeQsKzxs-tNrzeENQeWgbyCP9Og/viewform?usp=pp_url)

**Fifth Grade Promotion** – Still TBD

**Spring Band/Strings/Chorus Concerts** – Still TBD

**Field Day** - Still TBD

**Kindergarten Registration for 2020-2021** – Kindergarten Registration is on hold until further notice. AACPS is working on developing an online approach to the registration process. AACPS will be sending a message out to the community once the process has been finalized.

**A Message from our Guidance Counselor:**

Hi CMES Families,

I hope everyone is adjusting well to our new way of life. As we transition to e-learning, my role as a school counselor is changing as well. Each week I will send out some quick messages with ideas for coping skills and social emotional practices at home ideas. The teachers will be posting my messages on their google classrooms. This will cut down on the number of classrooms that students need to log onto each week. In addition, I am always available to support individual students and parents concerns through email. If you feel like your child is struggling to adjust to all of the changes please reach out to me at [jmfoster@aacps.org](mailto:jmfoster@aacps.org).

I always teach our students to look for the positive in every situation and to practice gratitude for the little things in our lives. This is the perfect opportunity to model this for our children. In fact, a great idea is to either start a gratitude journal or a gratitude jar. Each day take a few minutes as a family to think about what you are grateful for and record your ideas. When all this craziness is over it will be a great way to reflect on this experience in a positive way.

Stay Positive! We will get through this together.

Mrs. Foster

**A Message from our PE Teacher:** If you would like to stay active and healthy over the next two weeks at home [here](#) is a list of at home movement opportunities that are fun for the whole family.

**A Message from our Media Specialist:** In an effort to provide high-quality resources for students while our school is closed, we want you to know that your child still has remote and continued access to our school databases, eBooks and numerous applications such as the Google Education package, WeVideo, Wixie, Typing Club, First in Math and many other applications that your child uses on a daily basis.

Databases appropriate for Primary: students are (in the order of ease of use and readability): PebbleGo, World Book Early Learning, Discovery Education, and

DK. The remaining databases are geared toward Intermediate grades. Many of the databases have narration abilities. When using eBooks, the Capstone and Mackin books can be accessed without a user name and password. Capstone is Ms. Radisi's preferred platform as the books are narrated with a human voice rather than a computer-generated voice.

Various ways to access our databases and eBooks:

In URL, type mackinvia.com

Select our school

User name is: your child's student ID number

Password is: the last 4 digits of the student ID

or:

Download <https://www.google.com/chrome/> browser to access Classlinks (your child uses the applications included on their Classlinks page frequently for in-school instruction)

**CMES Yearbook** - It's that time again to purchase those memories captured during the school year. You will have an opportunity to customize two free pages. Yearbooks are \$16.40 Please follow the link below to purchase yours today!

Pass code 1014807036532753

Purchase Link <https://www.treering.com/validate?PassCode=1014807036532753>

TreeRing video <https://www.treering.com/Watch-the-TreeRing-Personalized-Yearbook-Demo>

**Marvelous Mustangs** - This week's Marvelous Mustangs are: All CMES Parents! We recognize everything you do to support your student in this new environment and the courage it takes to stay calm and patient. We appreciate you very much demonstrating *The Crofton Meadows Way* – Work Hard. Be Kind. Be Safe. Thank you for being so AWESOME and stay safe and healthy!

**First In Math!** -

During eLearning is the perfect time for students in grades 1-5 to access First in Math. Our recommendation is 15 minutes per day to keep basic fact skills sharp and to mastery new ones.

**March Madness is OVER! Congratulations:** Mrs. Gleason's 3rd Grade!

**Let's CELEBRATE!**

**Crofton Meadows is currently the TOP SCHOOL in the state of Maryland!**

**We did it! We are now in the Top 19 Schools in the nation!!! Can we hit Sweet 16? I think we can!**

**FIM Updates!**

Teams of the Week:

1st Place- Mrs. Hampson 2nd Grade

2nd Place- Mrs. Armstrong 1st Grade

3rd Place- Mrs. Carpenter 1st Grade

Players of the Week:

1st Place Grayson 1st Grade

2nd Place- Kaylyn 5th Grade

3rd Place- Isabel 2nd Grade

CONGRATULATIONS to ALL of our **NEW GRAND CHAMPIONS 10,000+ Stickers!**

Way to Go!

2nd Grade- Ivan

### **Planning Ahead:**

March 30 – April 24, 2020 School Closed by order of the Governor and State Superintendent of Schools. All school related activities have been cancelled until further notice.

April 9-13, 2020 Spring Break

### **PTO News**

**Art to Remember Still Available for Purchase:** Prior to school dismissal, CMES was participating in a creative fundraiser with Art to Remember that allows you to purchase keepsake products customized with your child's art. There are 50+ products and many are less than \$15. These make great gifts and a percentage of every purchase goes right back to our school. Click the link and enter your child's first and last name to find their

artwork: <https://arttoremember.com/school/rvmbkk>

The deadline for purchasing is April 20. The products will be shipped to your home in May.

**Post Your Mustang Pride!** Even though we are all at home right now, we can still show school spirit. Encourage your child to make a sign to put in your window or in front of your home to show how mighty we are. And remember the Crofton Meadows Way: Work Hard, Be Kind, and Be Safe! Post a photo on our [Facebook PTO page](#) of your student and your sign for everyone to see!

**Feedback about the entire Weekly Wrap Up** is welcome at [jtrumbule@aacps.org](mailto:jtrumbule@aacps.org).