

Dear Parents,

We have made it to March! Another milestone has passed. I really wish I could high five all the Ellerbees and congratulate them on all their hard work!

I wanted to do a follow-up on my technology woes. Last Monday I was hoping things would go smoothly. Some of you already know that suddenly on Monday morning I realized I couldn't plug in my iPad so I could present my document camera! I actually had to read the week's chapters in *How to Steal a Dog* without being able to write anything to model what to do for their post its. Yikes! Then, I was rescued during PE. I want to give a huge shout out to Nicole's dad because he popped into the Meet and problem solved with me. He then actually ordered the right cable I needed, and I was able to rush to the store and pick it up! Amazing! So the rest of the week technology-wise was relatively smooth. I ended up having to buy a new MacBook Pro. And this weekend has been all about getting all my files etc. migrated over to it. In this COVID world, I couldn't go get help at the Apple Genius Bar, so I got some phone support instead. And, I think it is finally done! I can't tell you how relieved I am! FYI, I wasn't able to grade the math tests because of this. Long story short, that process take 5 to 6 hours in this remote teaching world. I will get that done and emails sent as soon as possible. Thanks for your patience!

On to stuff to know...

REMINDER TO USE PEN

This week I did need to remind students to use black pen on all assignments. Please also take a minute to remind them and also maybe make sure they have some black pens at their work station. Some students did tell me their pens had run out of ink. It helps me SO much to be able to read what they wrote. Thank you!

TAKING PICTURES OF WORK

Also, related to this, please also help your kids know how to take pictures of assignments correctly. The pictures should be taken on a flat surface. And the camera should point directly down. A lot of pictures are starting to go back to holding assignments in the air or at a slant so it's hard to read the first half of the page. Also, some assignments are folded or crumpled. For example, this week I could barely read some post its that were sent in because they were folded. This is definitely a unique issue that is a NON-issue during regular school. #remoteschoolissues

THIS TUESDAY

I wanted to let you know that I did finally get a vaccination appointment for Tuesday afternoon! Hooray! However, I will need to leave right after lunch in order to get there on time. So, Tuesday afternoon there will not be a synchronous lesson. Ideally, the Ellerbees should use that time to do at least one of the language worksheets. They will still have our regular Wednesday "catch up" time of course. Thanks for your understanding and flexibility.

NAMING EMAILS CORRECTLY

We have talked about this a lot and it helped tremendously. We are at a place where mostly assignments are named correctly. A few students are having trouble still so I think if that happens I will send you a quick email to let you know. As a reminder, on the Assignment Checklist page on the website it says what to name it. It's a quick and easy way to check assignment names and it also is a easy checklist of the week's assignments.

On a related note, I am requesting that if students are emailing me for a different reason than turning in work, the subject line should make that clear. I have felt awful when I opened an email at the end of the day, thinking it is an assignment being turned in, only to discover it is a question about the assignment! Or sometimes it might be a request to use a coupon. Then I feel terrible about my late reply. I want to be there for your kids when they need me. So please ask your kids to be specific.

For example:

1. NOT "math 6.4." Instead, "math 6.4 help" or "math 6.4 question."
2. NOT "roots auto." Instead "roots auto coupon?"
3. NOT "chap 2 and 3 post its." Instead "Can we meet for post it help?"

LINCOLN YEARBOOK – URGENT REQUEST

As you know, John Ling, a Lincoln parent, is trying to still put together a yearbook for 20/21. We are at a place where this can either go forward or it will be canceled. Mrs. Kropp sent out an email last week asking for submissions. Some of her ideas for pictures are:

- Our last normal photos
- Mask fashion
- Siblings at home
- Pose in your home workspace
- Quarantine Hair (LOL)
- My pet companion (This should be a popular one – we have lots of pets!)
- Secret Talents
- Halloween
- Artwork, short essays, poetry you would like to share about what was like this past year
- take a photo holding a recent project you've completed in class,
- a sign showing your class spirit (like Ellerbees for Mrs. Eller's class or Mrs. Nastari's Shining Stars)
- Silly pictures like everyone wearing moustaches, etc.
- You can also send in photos of your child doing their academic work and projects from home so we could showcase the academics of Lincoln.

The link for our class is: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/mgiDpdbX7CjRucFvzfL6>

DEADLINE FOR PANORAMA SURVEY

Just a quick reminder to fill out the survey if you haven't had a chance to do so yet. The deadline is March 3. The link to the website is:

<https://surveys.panoramaed.com/cupertino/login>

A huge thanks for everything you are doing to support your kids, YOU are amazing!

Stay safe,

Ruth