

Dear Parents,

It's only a two week countdown to Hybrid beginning! So much to talk about! Thanks so much for your patience reading my long emails!

This week I have been reflecting a lot on the amazing integrity of your kids! They are so honest! When we grade papers, they mark mistakes and even speak up about mistakes they made. It makes it a safe place to answer questions and do some relearning. Maybe I was overwhelmed with this (in a good way) when they took the math test last week. I seriously have zero doubt that they are working on their own. They also are really careful about not giving any answers away during the test. We have a system set up where they can ask questions via email so it can be private. It warms my heart to see them working so hard and doing their best. I do not take that kind of integrity for granted. And I know this is a huge reflection of YOU. None of this has been easy for you, for me, and for the kids. But you are their anchor, and I am in awe of everything you are doing. I love your wonderful kids!

On to stuff to know...

WEIRD TUESDAY

I wanted to let you know that on Tuesday, March 23, I will be working on report cards. So, we will have a normal Morning Meet like we do on Wednesdays. Then, the rest of the day they will be working on doing research for their Jim Crow essays. Please refer to the website for more details. I absolutely am okay with them working together. In fact, I want them to work on the same Google Doc. I have recommended that if they are working together, they can actually divvy up the topics which will cut down the work and the time by a lot.

REPORT CARDS

Just FYI, originally report cards were going to be able to be accessed on March 26. This has changed to March 31. I noticed that in the Lincoln Log they still had the original date. I let Mrs. Kropp know, and she is making corrections, but I just didn't want you to be confused.

HUGE HUGE FAVOR

We are learning about California Native Americans. And each week we have a fun activity on Friday. So, I have been working hard at figuring out how to still make this fun even though we are long distance. It has definitely been a challenge.

So, this week we will be "harvesting acorns" which were the most important food resource for almost all the tribes in California.

So, where do you fit in?

I would like you to hide "acorns" around the house. Your kids will be doing a scavenger type of hunt as they search for acorns. You don't have to hide actual acorns. It can be as simple as writing the word "acorn" on post-its or any small paper, and then hiding those. **I think 12 would be a perfect number.** It is up to you where you hide these. It could be inside, outside, or limited to a certain part of the house like the kitchen. Whatever you think works best is fine with me. I totally APPRECIATE your help with this! On Friday after lunch they will have between 10 to 20

minutes to find all the acorns that they can. I will tell them “on your mark, get set, go!” And off they will go to gather acorns.

I know you are so busy and this is one more thing to add to your plate. And I know that they will have so much fun hunting for acorns. I hope that you have fun with it too. If this is completely impossible to do, please let me know. **It is super important to keep this a secret!** I told them you would be helping this week but left them hanging to build suspense. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

CLASS PICTURE – ONLINE STYLE

Nicole’s dad, James Tank, has volunteered to take a class picture! This will happen at 8:30 on Wednesday morning during our regular Meet. So this is probably a good morning to wake up in time to get dressed, brush hair etc. LOL! A big shout out to James for doing this!

HYBRID SCHEDULE WILL BRING CHANGES TO ALL

I have already sent lots of information to parents whose kids are going to be part of our Cohort A and Cohort b. (Let me know if you didn’t get the email.)

However, some changes will affect everyone. So I wanted to give you a heads up that I will be updating the weekly remote schedule on our website. The timings for recess, lunch, etc. have to be coordinated with all the Lincoln classrooms so there will be no flexibility.

The following pertains to **week of April 19 onwards:**

- School will start at 8:30 like normal.
- Recess 10:50 to 11:10
- Lunch 12:20 to 12:50
- Dismissal at 1:40
- Cohorts will travel home at 1:40
- Online check in at 2:00 to get help, connect, ask questions etc.
- Right now Music will still be at 10:00 on Thursdays.
- Still don’t know if PE will change.

MATERIALS PICK UP

Our next Materials Pick Up is scheduled for March 31 from 11:00 to 12:00. I will be sending home the rest of the math books. Also, a gift from Leo and family. And, thanks to Ellee’s mom, Layne, everyone will be getting a Ziplock bag of rocks to use during our geology unit coming up. **Please do not open the bag until I have the class do it together in class.** We don’t want to lose any rocks! There will also be a bag full of cool stuff that students will use to create STEAM activities. Again, this bag needs to stay sealed until directions come home. **Also, please gather up all the electricity items sent home and put it in the Ziplock bag. This will need to be returned on March 31.** As always, if you cannot pick up items that day/time, just let me know and we can pick another time that will work.

QUESTIONS ABOUT REOPENING/HYBRID?

Mrs. Kropp is holding a Principal's Coffee on Wednesday at 9:00. She will be able to answer questions that I cannot answer. Please pop in if you would like to listen and/or get some questions answered. The link is on the Lincoln Log but I'm also putting it here:

<https://cusdk8.zoom.us/j/82449731971?pwd=RGY3RFZ6Z012aZnWkZRUK1CcDM0dz09>

CAASPP TEST COMING SOON

We will be getting the schedule for CAASPP testing soon. It is most likely happening the week of April 5.

This is a test that is done online. Normally, 4th grade students have done it before and so it is not an unknown activity. However, due to the pandemic, the 3rd graders did not do the testing last spring. So this will be their first time.

They will be given a special ID number they will need to log on to the test. You should have received a flyer telling how to access your child's SSID number at home. Here is the link to the flyer just in case.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dhsV-w9Bu0sCl0tWEBb_cUD765gFwlnu/view

Please do this ASAP so that if any difficulties arise, you can contact Mrs. Satya for assistance. I am not allowed to email these secure numbers to you. You can email her at

satya_susan@cusdk8.org.

Also, it is helpful to do a practice online test before the real one happens. You can access a practice test using this link: <https://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html>

Using this link, your child can click on the rightmost button in green named "Student Interface Practice and Training Tests." You will be able to access the practice tests as a guest. So please don't create an account. As a guest, your child can do the practice test and get a little familiar with the formatting etc. A lot of the issues that happen during CAASPP are about issues like how to drag items etc. This is not required but I highly recommend that you do it. This week or next week will work – there is not a due date. However, if you have questions, you can contact Mrs. Satya so sooner is probably better than later.

Finally, have you looked at the directions on how to get a secure browser on your home device? If you have difficulty or prefer to use a school device (it will already have the secure browser on it) you will need to contact Mrs. Satya to get one. Again, the sooner the better.

Well, that was a lonnnng email! So much to know with everything happening. Report cards, hybrid schedule, CAASPP testing, and more! I just keep reminding myself that this, too, shall pass!

Stay safe,
Ruth