

News From the Dragon Den

Updates from Principal Williams



November 17, 2020

Greetings, Families!

I hope you are doing well and taking advantage of the great weather! Remember to enjoy the simple things that life offers, like fresh air and sunshine. We will even take the rain when it comes, because the sun shines afterwards.

Our community of learners are doing an amazing job with our Hybrid Instructional Model. A HUGE SHOUT-OUT to our students for their patience and dedication to their learning! Our teachers are rock stars and I cannot thank them enough for their work! A SHOUT-OUT to parents for working with us! We will keep this up.

Here are some important updates:

- Thanksgiving Break will be from November 23 through November 27.
- If you have not had a chance to read the Superintendent's Bulletin, here is what you should know:
 - To help limit the spread of COVID-19 in our schools, the week following Thanksgiving (November 30-December 4) all district schools will be closed to students. All instruction will be virtual.
 - Our bell time will be the same (9:10am-3:07pm); teachers will continue to teach with their current schedules.
 - In-person instruction will resume on December 7, 2020.
- No School on December 18 as it is Record Keeping Day.
- Winter Break will be from December 21-January 1.
- Please note that the school playground is closed as we do our part to stop the spread of COVID. We ask that you do not allow your children to play on the playground after school. Your cooperation is appreciated.
- As a reminder, we are not able to accept any shared items from home unless they are for your individual child.
- Operation Food Search is happening! If you have canned goods that you would like to drop off, there will be a barrel outside during morning pickup—and more at the entrance to Door #3. There will also be a barrel at Door #5 for those who wish to drop off during afternoon pick up! The last day will be January 7, 2021.

As students will be virtual after Thanksgiving break, I ask that you take an inventory of what is working for your child in the virtual classroom as we continue to keep them engaged with the task at hand. Here are some tips:

- Evaluate your child's learning environment at home.
- Make sure the learning area is free from distractions.
- Maintain a daily and/or weekly task list.
- Have a copy of the schedule handy!

It is my sincere hope that you and your family take a moment to enjoy the simple things. Spending time with family, playing board games, charades, and movie nights are all simple things that we often take for granted—but it is necessary to stay clear-minded and connected to the bigger picture.

As we enter the holiday season, I ask that you stay safe, keep a safe distance, and wear a facemask. Do your part to mitigate the spread of COVID so that we can get back to what makes Mallinckrodt Academy a special place.

-Dr. Williams