Dear EMES Families -

Happy Mother’s Day to all our EMES moms and grandmas! I hope you had a fantastic day with your children! I want to thank you for all the acts of kindness and appreciation you shared with the EMES staff last week—it was heartwarming to see such outpouring of love and appreciation!

Our caravan of staff LOVED seeing so many of you on Friday when we drove through the first half of East Montpelier in our EMES Staff Parade. We are looking forward to waving and honking at the other half of our community this coming Friday (schedule below). We miss you all so much and it was awesome to see so many waving, smiling faces, read your beautiful signs, and even listen to some music and be entertained with pogo stick hopping!

Thank you for sharing your Thoughtful Placement Forms with me last week. We will begin the process of placing students for 2020-2021 this coming week and will notify parents as soon as we’re finished with this process. We typically don’t announce placement for next year until report cards in June, but given the uncertainty of so many things, we want to give you some certainty as we look forward to next fall.

I am very excited to announce that Noelle Pinard will be joining EMES next fall as our new second grade teacher. Noelle has most recently taught in Derby VT and is looking forward to relocating closer to family in Central VT. Welcome, Noelle!

At last Wednesday night’s board meeting, the WCUUSD School Board voted to forego the five school days that would need to be made up due to inclement weather. Given this, our last student day will be Thursday, June 11th. We are busy working on plans to close out the year, including plans to celebrate our graduating sixth-graders. More information to come on what this will look like very soon!

Though some restrictions have eased from Governor Scott’s updates this week, playgrounds and play structures remain closed at this time. We will notify you when updates are available that change restrictions. We appreciate your continued cooperation and understanding during this time.

This upcoming week will look very similar to the previous few — you can find the schedule for the week for your child(ren) on our Remote Learning Site, and should be receiving the packets in the mail by tomorrow.

Stay well,
Alicia
**Weekly Office Hours:**

- **Art:** Mondays 2:00—3:00
- **Music:** Tuesdays 2:00—3:00
- **PE:** Thursdays 2:00—3:00
- **Nurse Elizabeth:** Wednesday 9:30—10:30
- **Mary Beth:** Wednesday 8:00—9:00
- **Michael Sherwin:** Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri 8:00—9:00

**New Zoom Support Group for EMES School Parents and Guardians**

The Health Center in Plainfield will be offering a parent/guardian support group in Zoom for families in your school once a month on **Tuesdays from 11am-12pm**. The group will meet on the **2nd Tuesday each month, beginning on Tuesday May 12th**. We understand that this period of quarantine at home is so challenging for us all. As parents/guardians, we have had to become teachers, child care workers and still try to be the best parents we can. Join this Zoom group to talk with other parents/guardians about how they are surviving and learn some ideas for taking care of ourselves while we care for our children. Each group will be facilitated by two counselors from the Health Center, Jamie Spector and Isabel Senter, who can offer ideas and support. One of the best tools for taking care of ourselves is to reach out to others for support. This group can be one step in that direction.

Just click the link below to join this group:

Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/99072441779?pwd=VURtSmo2RVU3OTV6bWxCNktRMTlvQT09
Meeting ID: 990 7244 1779
Password: 623120
One tap mobile
+13126266799,,99072441779# US (Chicago)
+16465588656,,99072441779# US (New York)

**Student Work and Packet Return on Wednesdays!**

We received a TON of packets last Wednesday on the bus and are excited to continue collecting school-work through the bus for the remainder of the school year. All schoolwork can be given to an adult on the bus during the lunch run, and they will make sure it gets back to your child’s teacher for feedback. Soon, we will be cleaning out cubbies, lockers, and desks, and will return your child’s belongings on the bus as well!

**Friday, May 15th  Bus Parade**

12:45 Meet at EMES -Cherry Tree Hill - Town Hill
1:00 Rt 14 South
1:10 FW Webb - Clark Rd - E. Hill Rd - Rt14
1:25 Carleton Blvd - Sandy Pines - Pine Ridge - Rt 14
1:45 Rt 2 - Rt 214 - Factory St - Guyette Rd - Rt 14
2:00 Kelton - Snow Hill - Vincent Flats - EMES

**Dates to Remember**

- May 15th: EMES Staff Parade 12:30—2:30
- May 20th: WCUIUSD Board Meeting (virtual)
- May 25th: Memorial Day—No School!
- May 30th: Green Up Day!
- June 11th: Last Day for Students!
Attention 4th - 6th Grade Students
Please go to the Library page of the EMES Remote Learning site to vote for the Dorothy’s List Book Award and/or to suggest a new name for the book award.
all 4th - 6th graders who have read 5 or more this years Dorothy’s books can vote for their favorite
All 4th-6th graders can suggest a new name for VT's Middle Grade Book Award
Both forms are linked from the Library Section of the EMES Remote Learning website

Dear EMES Families,

We are so excited that library books will be heading out to students this Wednesday on the buses.

This is a new way to request library books, so please do not hesitate to reach out to Arlyn if you have questions. Check out the video she made with tips for how to use the catalog to remotely browse the library. That video is posted on the Library section of the Remote Learning site.

If you have library books to return, please take them to the bus on Wednesdays. We will only be accepting returns on Wednesdays. The reason for that is we need to isolate books for a period of time before they can be recirculated and to help us manage that, we are only accepting returns at the bus on Wednesdays.

To request books, go to this form (also linked off the library section of the Remote Learning site). Week 3 Request Form These books will be delivered May 20th.

If you requested books last week, Arlyn will email you to confirm that you have books coming on the bus on Wed.

A big shout out to Mr. Rick for helping to make this go!

Happy reading
Ms. Arlyn
Closure of EMES Playground and Outside Recreational Areas

From learning that COVID-19 can live on certain surfaces for up to three days, all WCUUSD school playgrounds, tennis courts, and other outdoor recreational areas have been closed at this time and until the Governor’s Stay Home, Stay Safe order has been lifted. This is to help reduce community spread of COVID-19. Signs have been posted and we ask the community to refrain from using them for the immediate future.

We know that our students likely miss their friends from school but we want to emphasize that congregating, even outside, is not encouraged. Students and families should not use school grounds at this time and we are hopeful that you are finding other ways for kids to stay connected with peers during this challenging time.

We encourage our EMES families to continue taking advantage of the outdoors near your homes and at a safe social distance if you are otherwise in the community. We appreciate your understanding of our efforts to flatten the curve.

NEW! EMES Remote Learning Resources Website

We have created an EMES Remote Learning Resources Website for families as we understand how challenging it is for everyone to keep track of all of the remote online learning tools! We developed this website as a one-stop-shop for the EMES community to quickly and easily find the online links and resources needed for all things learning during this time!

You’ll find this Remote Learning Website linked on the homepage of our EMES School Website. To find your homeroom classroom, hover your mouse over the “Classrooms” tab and then click on your grade level. To view the allied arts resources, hover over the “Allied Arts” tab and click on one of the options. We’ve also included PBIS Tips and Strategies for Home, information about our Food Services, Health, and Library during this time.

Once you’ve had an opportunity to explore this new website, we would love to hear feedback from you! Please feel free to contact your child’s teachers or Mr. Sherwin at msherwin@u32.org with any suggestions or comments. We will continually update and change, according to the needs of students and families. We appreciate your patience while we smooth out any hiccups that might come along with the public launch of this new website!

For better uniformity for parents, when you click on a classroom teacher’s page, the first thing you’ll see is the learning template for the week.

Each classroom teacher will share this information weekly so you have a snapshot of what the week will look like, regardless of classroom. You’ll continue to receive updates from teachers through SeeSaw, Google Classroom, Daily Digests, etc. as well.