

Dear Center School Parents/Guardians: (Week 10 of remote learning)

Students, please watch week 10 video message found on the school website, (“home instruction” page.)

Almost there! Only a few weeks left to this academic school year. As the year nears its end, we are left with more questions and concerns for the next. This seems to be the major issue on all our minds.

We are all watching events unfold and waiting to hear from the state as to what school may look like in September. There are lots of rumors and conjectures based upon current information and health guidelines, but nothing has been decided yet. As we have seen things change quickly. So, for now we are focused on finishing out the next few weeks strong. We are all hoping and planning for a normal school year come September. But we are also taking all the lessons we have learned these past few months, as educators teaching long distance, and assessing how we can improve our remote learning program should we need to use it again in the future. Thank you all for your continued support in educating your children. Again, we appreciate your patience and assistance with our remote learning. Our students appreciate all that you do. **And we appreciate all the smiles we see on our computers!**



FROM THE CLASSROOMS:

High School

Mr. Leichtling's LAL classes continued their exploration of biographical writing with choosing their project topics. Building from the background established both by reading and preparing to read Shakespeare's "The Tragedy of Julius Caesar," students were introduced to several options for their project. Their choices included Cicero, Cleopatra, Julius Caesar, Mark Antony, and Octavius. From there, they began their research utilizing online sources, fleshing out and bringing to life these people gone for 2000 years.

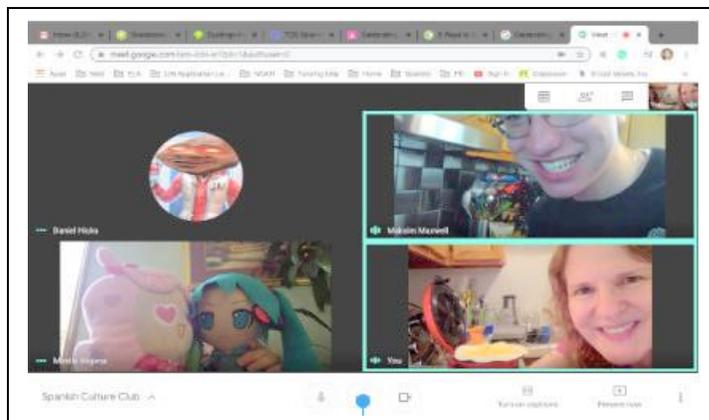
Ms. Livelli's History1 class learned about many of the components of the Industrial Revolution. Working conditions, child labor, and the roles of women were discussed. In American History, we are learning how the Internet and mass communications link the nations of our global village. Some of the students in our LAL classes were able to present our biographies. They did a phenomenal job with their presentations and their classmates did an awesome job being an attentive audience.

One of Dr. R's Algebra students just finished a unit on ratios. The Consumer Math class is learning to use a check register to avoid bouncing any checks. The Algebra students studying systems of equations will be learning 4 different ways to solve those systems of equations and, as always, be able to solve problems both algebraically and graphically. Dr. R's Precalculus class is investigating the end behavior of exponential and logarithmic functions using a graphing calculator.

In Ms. Gonzalez's Spanish 1 classes, the students have continued to work on conjugating – ar verbs (changing the ending of the verb, so that the verb agrees with the subject) while learning to identify and describe different activities in Spanish. In the process of learning new phrases to help the students write complete sentences, they have been also learning how to also ask questions and say no in their sentences in Spanish.

In Ms. Gonzalez's English 1 classes, the students have moved on to the next phase of the writing process this week as they continue to work on the biographies of their chosen subjects. They had a lesson on writing a conclusion paragraph, where they learned to summarize their ideas based on the legacy and impact of their subject. The students also completed writing a rough draft of the introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion. They have just started the revising and editing phase. Next week, the students will have a lesson on writing the bibliography as the last page of their essays.

In Ms. Gonzalez's Spanish 2 class, the students have continued to work on learning different expressions used with the verbs “ser” and “estar” that both mean “to be.” They have been practicing their conversational skills, using these verbs in the correct forms, while interviewing each other.



Middle School

Mrs. Burak's Language Arts class continued on their biography project. The students continued their research. They were given a graphic organizer that helped them formulate their paragraphs by answering paragraph related questions. The students then utilized this organizer to write the various paragraphs. The final paragraph was an opinion paragraph. The students explained why, in their opinion, the person was important. They also described which event, in their opinion, was the most significant in that person's life. Once this step was complete, the students began revising their papers. They were required to expand their sentences utilizing adjectives and adverbs as well as transition words. Once this paper is complete, the students will present their papers via Google Meet.

Ms. Small's Science class started their unit on heredity and genetics this week. Students learned about Gregor Mendel's experiments and what these taught us about heredity. Students reflected on Mendel's experiments being overlooked for 40 years before being rediscovered, relating the event to a time in their own lives when they rediscovered something they thought was previously lost. Along with discussions in Google Chat and Google Meet, the students also read excerpts and completed worksheets regarding heredity and Mendel's experiments. We will continue to study heredity, genetics, and Mendel next week.

In Ms. Akushie's Science class the students are learning about electrical charge and the methods of charging. They are also learning about Electrical force and how positively and negatively charged items are attracted to each other. This week the students also learned about SpaceX and its first crewed mission to the International Space Station. The historic mission will launch for its second attempt this weekend. The students are excited to see the results.



Students in Ms. Harrison's Language Arts Class have just

completed the unit on novels, specifically the novel "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde". The concluding activity was to create a detailed diorama. Students chose a favorite scene from the book and recreated it using items found around the house and demonstrated their creativity while remaining accurate to the story. A detailed rubric described the expectations of the project. In addition, students had to prepare to present their dioramas to reflect their knowledge of the book, scene, and plot. The presentations, through the use of Google Meet, were also to practice speaking skills in front of small groups. The dioramas were very diverse and unique while maintaining true to the novel. All students did exceptional work, both on the dioramas and presentations. It was wonderful to hear peers provide positive

feedback to one another as well as giving a round of applause after each presentation. It was an impressive display of support and class unity.

Elementary School

Flat Mrs. Sheeley had quite a fun week enjoying s'mores with Courtney and drawing and walking the nature trail with Brendan. In Science we began a unit on plants this week. Students are experimenting with bean seeds to see if plants need light to grow. We placed 2 bean seeds in a baggie with a wet paper towel. Next, we taped one in a sunny window and one in a dark cabinet. Stay tuned for our results. Students studied the plant life cycle and used Seesaw to draw it. We are enjoying an adventure back in time to the cretaceous period with Jack and Annie in the book "Dinosaurs Before Dark" by Mary Pope Osborne.

In Ms. Bailey's class this week students worked on creating an antagonist character which will meet their protagonist character soon! In Science they learned about the food chain. They learned producers and consumers and how each is dependent on another as a link in the chain. They learned some interesting facts about mushrooms as

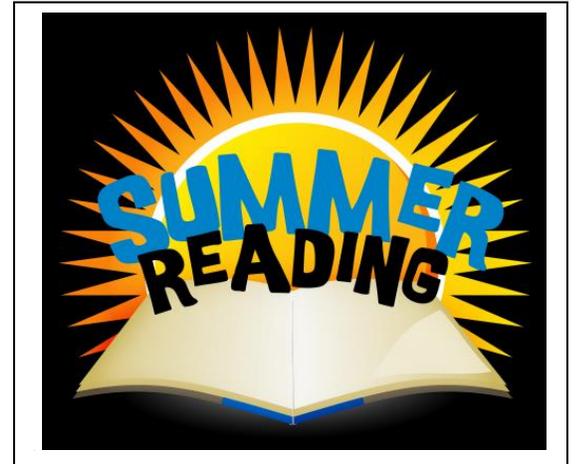


decomposers. A class observation project of food decomposing began. Students are watching to see what changes occur each day. The “Big Friendly Giant” led them through some adventures in Reading.

Reading/Literacy Support

The **Summer Reading Guide** is available for parents, grandparents, and students. It is published on our website. Additionally, you can contact Mrs. Eachus (meachus@center.school) to receive a copy.

The goal for any student is to read, Read, READ! With families looking for things to do (especially this summer with the current closings of many camps and other normal summer activities) this is a great time to start reading or increase reading times. Practice with the varied texts is so important to internalize or routinize the many skills acquired during the school year. Reading is everywhere! If you have specific questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Eachus via email.



Speech and Language

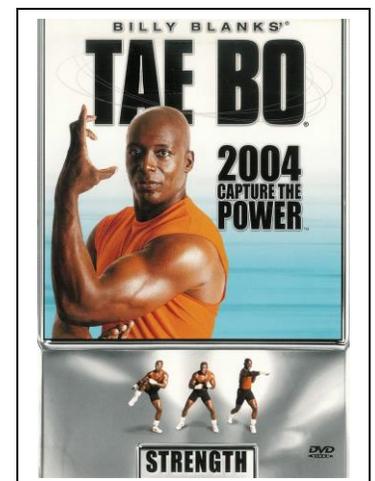
The students in the Speech and Language Program have been busy this week. One student has been creating her own version of a Readers Theater type of play based on the movie Lego NinJago. Another student is reading and watching videos of simple machines and learning about how much our world has changed with these inventions. Some of the high school students have been researching what the world was like millions of years ago, which involved reading and discussing Archaeopteryx and other fossils. A few other students have been working on a biography for their classroom teachers. They are provided with academic support for brainstorming, taking notes, completing an outline or graphic organizer, composing sentences and paragraphs, producing a rough draft, as well as revising and editing.

Phys. Ed.

High School Physical Education continued venturing through the decades of fitness trends and left behind the 90's and went right into the 2000's. In the beginning week students learned about Pilates which gained popularity in the early 2000's. It shares a lot of similarities with yoga, but it adds dynamic movements and calisthenic exercises. After that, students challenged their cardiovascular health by doing a HIIT and CKO Kickboxing.

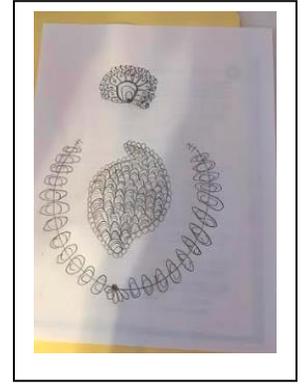
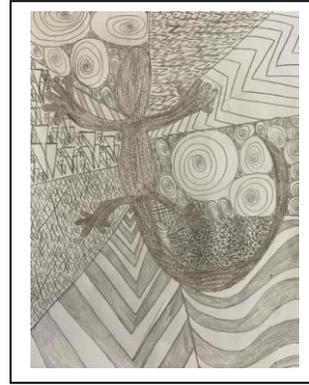
Elementary students continued to challenge their fitness levels with a high intensity workout on Wednesday. On Friday they returned to our super hero roots and completed both Avengers AND Justice League workouts!

Middle School students tried out a few different workouts this week including Taebo, kickboxing, and cardio boxing. The students did their best and some students said they were tired after the workout as they were sweating it out. Great workouts by all the students!



Art

This short week in Art class Elementary students started their versions of a rose garden for spring. Middle School students began work on an animal outline of their choice with 4 sections behind their animal outline to be filled in with various patterns. The High School students completed animal outlines of their choice with 8 more complicated patterns to use for section fill in.



Music

This week in music all students received a lesson on Memorial Day and associated music. Students listened to “Fanfare For The Common Man” by Aaron Copland, a great American Music Composer. Students listened to TAPS and learned how this bugle song came to be. In case you did not know, it started during the Civil War.

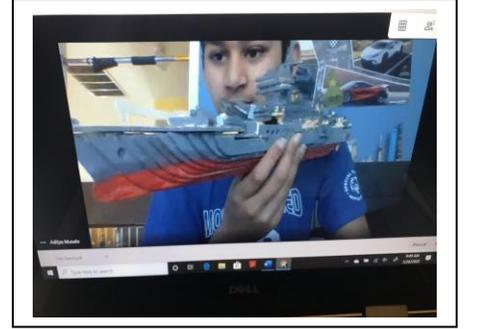
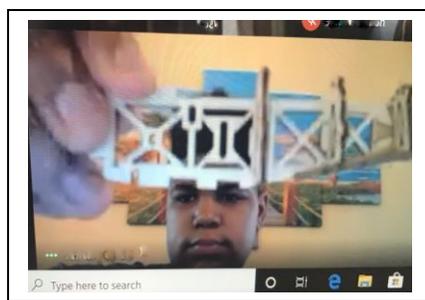
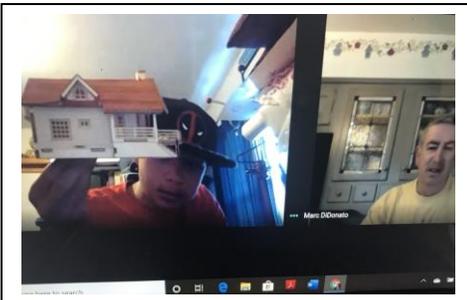
Elementary students started to cut out their “Peter and the Wolf” puppets for a lesson on this wonderful musical story by Russian Composer Sergei Prokofiev. Students will identify the characters of the story through the instruments used.

Middle School students had fun with our current season of American Idol so we are judging Season 8.

High School students continued drumming skills and piano skills.

Woodshop

Students continued to explore each other's woodshops at home. Many High School projects received their finishing touches this week: miniature houses, lock boxes, aircraft carriers, and Lego ice cream trucks. Middle School students began their panda, wolf, and motorcycle kits. Elementary School continued their hard work on carousels, ferris wheels, and Red Baron planes. We are on the final stretch and really enjoying ourselves by teaching each other, learning from each other, and laughing together.



OT

This week in Sensory Diet, students worked on body awareness and balance by completing various movements and yoga poses with either their eyes closed or while balancing a pillow or other object on specific body parts like their head or back. They also worked on their fine motor skills by imitating various hand emojis. Finally, they worked on their visual perceptual skills by matching words to their outlines. Everyone is doing a great job!

Bistro

Bistro students spent their week cooking. Students made banana smoothies, twice baked potatoes, and/or frittatas. By all accounts, they were yummy. Students planned the ingredients and supplies, cooked, ate with etiquette, and cleaned up. A good time was had by all.



Career and Financial Planning / Career Exploration

Career students studied various work scenarios as it relates to work deadlines, schedules, shifts, working as a team, and the difference between being fired and being laid off. Whew! That's a lot to remember when starting a new job.

Career Exploration / Life Skills

Career Exploration and Life Skills students continued to learn about budgets, and compared essential (fixed), essential (variable) and non-essential expenses. Life skills practiced writing their signatures and learned about the parts of a check.

Therapeutic Dept.

Mrs. Gorski's Middle School girl's group discussed end of the year events and how different these events may look for graduation, awards, and celebrating these events with family and friends. Students expressed their need for socialization and how sad they were because they could not celebrate with their friends. They then discussed the good things that they can focus on and be grateful for, for example: family, pets, technology, means of communication, a home, food on the table, and being able to celebrate virtually with our family and friends. Our Peer Mentoring session was held and students played 8 Ball Pool while having discussion about things that they are looking forward to this summer and moving forward at home and school.

High School students are looking forward to the end of the year. Many are hoping to have virtual fun activities planned for end of the year celebrations. This week, the High School girl's group continued watching the movie "Troop Zero". This movie is about a group of elementary-school misfits that band together to form their own troop of Birdie Scouts. The movie shows perseverance, team work, and strong will. The girls are enjoying the movie and the discussions that they have been having along with it. Many other High School students were concerned about the recent news of George Floyd's death. Students were upset by what occurred and were able to share their feelings with their peers regarding this awful incident.

Transition

Transition Students are learning how to use Google Suites of programs in order to add value to their portfolio. They are using <https://applieddigitalskills.withgoogle.com/en/digital-training> to help them master Spreadsheets and Presentation applications.



School News

High School Explorers

On June 6th from 1pm - 2pm, the High School Explorers will be participating in a Scavenger hunt. For more information please contact Ms. Gibson cgibson@center.school

Dungeons & Dragons

Group Archer began their mission from the town of Twin Rivers, sent by a town elder and the captain of the town watch after a report of a possibly missing merchant. After persuading a town elder to increase their pay in both money and...boiled shoe..., they ventured out, travelling many miles north. They encountered and slayed a wild boar before finding a carriage that had been attacked some days before. As the session ended, they found a trail leading into the Black Forest and entered in search of the perpetrators...

In a similar but distinct universe, Group Barbarian accepted a mission on a late summer evening to investigate a report of attacks on the northern road. Before leaving Twin Rivers they elected to plot out a trap for the potential raiders, convincing the largest farm's owner to "loan" them a cart, covering it with hay to look like a regular farm vehicle, and equipped it with a pair of horses for the journey. They elected to rest and leave at first light the next day, however three of the five adventurers overslept and had to be tracked down. Finally, as the sun rose on a new day, they set out on their mission on the road north...

Student Activities - Trivia Night - Kahoot

All School Trivia Night will be held on May 29th from 4-5pm. Please RSVP to Ms. Gibson (cgibson@center.school) no later than May 27th for more information and the Google Meet Invitation. It is recommended that students have a separate smart device and download the Free Kahoot App prior to joining. Students may also split screen (have two separate windows open) as an alternative option to downloading the free app

Cooking Club

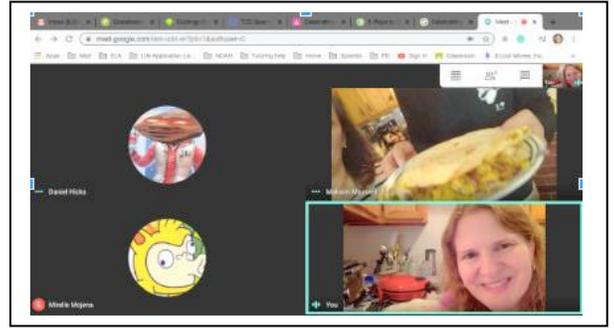
Cooking Club prepared dinner this week for their families, making Baked Macaroni and Cheese. It was fun, easy, and delicious.

Next Tuesday students will be making Ice Cream Sandwich Cake, and the recipe is in Cooking Club Google Classroom. If you are interested in being added to the classroom, email Mrs. Lees at mlees@center.school



Spanish Culture Club

The Afterschool High School Spanish Culture Club meets every Tuesday from 3:00-4:00 pm. On Tuesday, May 19, students participated in fun activities from our homes. As students joined the Meet, they played the online interactive Google Doodle game, Lotería, with each other, that celebrates the traditional Mexican bingo card game. Afterwards, students viewed a video on how to make quesadillas de queso (tortillas filled with shredded cheese). Then, I demonstrated how to make the quesadillas from my kitchen. Some of the students also made quesadillas with their families from their kitchens. On Tuesday, May 26, students took an interactive, virtual field trip to Mexico City using Google Maps that gave students the most realistic trip to Mexico that they can experience without leaving our virtual classroom. Students “traveled” to some of the most famous sites in Mexico City. We will continue “traveling” the rest of Mexico City and playing Lotería at the next Spanish Culture Club on Tuesday, June 2 from 3:00-4:00pm. So, grab your tortilla chips and salsa and meet us for a fun time! ¡Vámanos! Let's go! Please email Ms. Gonzalez at rgonzalez@center.school for more information.



Health & Wellness

Please see the attached link for information on Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome related to COVID-19 (MIS-C), a rare illness that affects children.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children/mis-c.html>

Continue to be safe ❤️

IMPORTANT DATES:

Wed. June 17	High School Virtual Graduation 9:30 am Middle School Virtual Graduation 12:00pm
Fri. June 19	Early Dismissal, Last day of school.
Mon. July 6	Start of ESY program

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald P. Rinaldi".

Dr. Ronald P. Rinaldi
Principal