

Dear P.S. 81 Families,

The administration and staff of P.S. 81 are thinking and praying for our entire school community. We hope that you continue to stay healthy during this difficult time. Please continue to follow the directives of the CDC in order to keep your family healthy.

We were proactive in creating three weeks of instructional packets for your students before the school closed. Parents of students who were absent were able to pick them up last week. The remaining packets that weren't picked up were mailed on March 18th. Please continue to have your students complete the packets and have them post their work online. We are using Google Classroom for students in grades Three, Four and Five. Students in Kindergarten, First and Second grade are using Seesaw. We have distributed all of our laptop computers and iPads. I have requested additional laptops and iPads from the Department of Education. You can also request one if you click this link: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learn-at-home/ipad-distribution>

The administration and staff has worked diligently to create an effective learning curriculum for our students' online learning. Teachers have informed you through dojo with the many details. Our cluster teachers have created an amazing menu of creative activities to support and engage our students. You will also receive a multitude of resources. You and your child can make choices based on their individual needs and interests. We realize that the task of monitoring and guiding your child/children with their work is stressful and time consuming. We understand and expect that the transition to online learning will be a gradual process. Continue to reach out to your teachers, they are eager to help you. Our school community is very unique and we will succeed in ensuring that our children's needs are met.

Online learning is up and running very smoothly. I am excited to hear students sharing their thoughts, inventions and work assignments. It has been an enlightening experience. Our students are truly amazing. In the last week, they have demonstrated their creativity, diligence and persistence. However, they have shared how much they miss their teachers and friends. Please tell your child/children how much we miss them and understand how difficult it is for them. Give them one big hug from everyone at P.S. 81. Personally, I can't wait to see and greet their smiling faces every morning. Hopefully, it will be very soon.

Best Regards,

Anne Kirrane
Principal, P.S. 81