



## Upper Elementary – Learning @ Home

As you know, TMS, like other independent schools, has made the decision to close following the School March Break to support the containment of COVID-19. As a result of the closure, we have moved our classroom learning to an online platform effective Tuesday March 24<sup>th</sup>.

Here is how it will work:

- Teachers will continue to follow the current classroom schedule of lessons based generally on the TMS 8 day cycle. This will include a combination of both homeroom lessons and specialist classes.
- Each morning by 8:15 am we ask that your child checks his/her TMS Gmail account for his/her lesson schedule for the day.
  - Included with this schedule will be a link to a number of live lessons using a platform called Google Hangouts. There will also be a daily schedule provided to you by teachers that will give students an outline of their day.
- In order for your child to have access to these lessons he/she will need the following:
  - A tablet, Chromebook, iPad, desktop or laptop computer with camera and audio functions
  - Access to his/her TMS Gmail account

If your child does not have access to a device and/or your child cannot access his/her TMS Gmail account, please reach out to me for assistance.

- The teachers will be using Google Hangouts for active online lessons. Not all lessons will be live. Some will be in the form of attachments. They will attach any assignments or suggested work following these lessons on their Google Classroom page. The students have access to their Google Classroom via their Gmail accounts.
- Students are already familiar with this format as it is part of their daily routine in the classroom. Teachers will be utilizing a combination of Google Hangouts and Google Classroom for their lessons. Therefore, I ask that you please remind your child to check his/her TMS Gmail account each morning in order to prepare for lessons.
- In addition to live lessons and email attachments, the teachers will make themselves available every day for any questions you or your children have about the work or schedules. This designated time will also be in the daily class email you and your child receive.

Please be patient with us if technical difficulties arise. As always, I greatly appreciate your support as we aim to provide optimum learning experiences for your child during this unique time.

While we know it is hard to replicate the learning journey your child experiences each day at TMS, we hope this short-term bridge to their learning is helpful, fun, joyful and engaging. We encourage you and



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your child to share your ideas, experiences and the conversations this new form of learning provokes. It is our hope that this will increase comfort using technology, encourage students to lean into a new challenge with courage and optimism and be a new way to further the independence of our Upper Elementary students.

Stay well and safe.

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