

## A Message from the Principal

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Dear SES families,

First of all, thank you for your patience and understanding. We realize any disruption of routines and schedules is hard on families, and we know not having the doors of Salisbury Elementary open at this time may create additional trials and struggles. Thank you for understanding that the safety of each of our students is the top priority in the decision to call off school during this time.

Secondly, we wanted to offer some suggestions for providing academic support for your student(s) while we are unable to attend school in the traditional manner. Instead of completing multiple pages of worksheets, we would like to suggest your child do the following: (completely optional)

1. Create a journal of this experience. We are currently making history whether we like it or not. Provide your child with a blank notebook or papers (any scrap paper will do), then guide them to record the facts, their feelings and any other tidbits they find interesting about what all is going on not only in the USA, but in the entire world. They may even want to include newspaper clippings or print off copies of internet articles. Remind them that one day others may read their journal to understand what these days were like, just as they have read the journals of courageous men & women in history.
2. Practice math facts! I cannot encourage this enough. Quiz your child with flash cards, card games & orally. The better they know their facts, the quicker they can get caught up in math lessons when we return to school.
3. March is Music In Our Schools Month, which makes it a great time to use music to learn about history. Challenge your child to design a timeline of music throughout history. Then have them add important dates and unique facts which correlate with their music timeline.
4. Start a garden together. This can be as simple as experimenting with planting potatoes &/or tomatoes in a pot. Have your child keep a record of what happens as they observe their plants each day. Be sure to include measurements.

5. If you have access to technology, encourage your child to spend time each day using the iReady program. If your child does not remember their login information, please email their classroom teacher and they will set you up. Research has shown at least 45 minutes in reading & 45 minutes in math each week will greatly assist your child with their academic growth.  
<https://www.curriculumassociates.com/login>
6. Require your child to READ at least 30 minutes a day! Book Reports can be done on paper, as recorded oral reports (email to teacher) or with creative journaling. These reports will be counted towards their classroom goals. Books are available in the Louise's Lending Library on the playground or on a shelf in the front entry way of the elementary if your child needs some. If additional books are needed please contact me and I will be happy to get them to you.

For additional ideas and suggestions check out the resource links on my webpage at:  
<https://sites.google.com/a/salisbury.k12.mo.us/the-principal-s-page/>

Finally, we want all our families to know Buddy Packs have been placed within the entryway to the front door of our building if your family could use them. Please also be watching for additional information from the district Food Service Department on meal options. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Mrs. Sellers, our Food Service Director with questions. We would be happy to help.

Looking forward to sharing journals & challenging your child to a game of Around the World with math facts when we return to school. Please remind them to practice up! 😊

Blessings,

*Mrs. Gebhardt*

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**“Life is 10% what happens to you,  
And 90% how you react to it.”**

-Charles R. Swindoll