

Dear Ascend Families,

We hope you are staying healthy and safe. After a lot of thoughtful planning, we are excited to launch our remote program learning on Monday, March 23rd! In this letter, we want to explain what we are asking of students, teachers, and parents during this time, as well as some information about both our online platform (Google Classroom) and the remote learning plan. Your child's teacher will contact you on Friday, March 20th, to share step-by-step directions on how to access Google Classroom, our primary platform for delivering remote instruction.

Students are expected to

- watch videos of lessons, daily.
- complete and submit assignments in Google Classroom.
- participate in office hours when either they or their teacher has questions.

Teachers will

- review, grade, and give feedback on all assignments.
- hold daily office hours to answer questions.
- communicate with students/families individually via phone.
- proactively schedule additional help sessions with students who need extra support.
- communicate with families about student effort, academic growth, and work completion.

Families should support their child's learning by:

- helping to hold them accountable as they learn to learn remotely.
- supporting your child and being clear about habits and expectations that will help your child be a successful home learner. At the end of this document you can find a list of **virtual classroom expectations** that you can share with your child as you help them transition to a virtual classroom.
- frequently connection with your child's teacher. Please take their teacher's call or follow-up on messages as soon as you can. Also, please reach out to them proactively about issues or concerns. Please let them know if you are having any technology-related challenges as they can help troubleshoot.

Google Classroom

- Access this video to learn more about Google Classroom – what it is and how to set it up to prepare for remote learning. <https://youtu.be/2lowi-gmbys>

On the back of this document, you can find *A Day in the Life of a Remote Learning Lower School student*.

We are truly excited to launch remote learning and to support you and your family as your students continue to learn during this unexpected time. Please reach out to your child's teacher or your school director with any questions.

In partnership,

Canarsie Ascend Lower School

A Day in the Life of a Remote Learning Lower School student (Grades K-2)

TIME	ACTIVITY
8:00-8:30am	Breakfast - Get dressed and ready for an awesome day! Log into your Google Classroom with your child by going to classroom.google.com and entering the username and password provided by your teacher.
8:30 – 9:00am	Ascend Daily Phonics Lesson – Videos of new phonics content will be available on Google Classrooms for you! Watch the video teaching you phonics and practice with your parents!
9:00-10:00am	Ascend Daily Math Lesson – Videos of new math content will be available on Google Classrooms for you! Watch the video teaching you new mathematical ideas and complete the classwork that comes with your video! Additional resources for families <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Khan Academy Kindergarten, 1st grade and 2nd grade math can be appropriate. Ideally a parent or older sibling sits next to them while doing this. • https://www.zearn.org/ - engaging math site adapted from EngageNY • Kindergarten: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have scholars practice answering questions using this interactive ten frame. This will help scholars remember number combinations and develop their understanding of part-part-whole relationships. ○ Have scholars practice identifying a missing number using this interactive game. ○ • First Grade: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have scholars practice math facts for 10-15 minutes a day! This will help them to solve problems more quickly and accurately. Scholars can play the game batter up by selecting either the addition or subtraction symbol to practice quickly remembering facts. ○ Have scholars practice identifying a missing number using this interactive game. • Second Grade: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have scholars practice math facts for 10-15 minutes a day! This will help them to solve problems more quickly and accurately. Scholars can play the game batter up by selecting either the addition or subtraction symbol to practice quickly remembering facts. • Have scholars practice counting money using this interactive money tool.
10:00-10:30 am	Play. Ideally outside if weather permits! For inside play check out Go Noodle. https://www.gonoodle.com/
10:30-11:30am	Independent Reading Time. Ideally this would be time to read next to a parent or sibling. If students are ready, they can read on their own. Suggested books (by reading level): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 100+ books that students can read or have read to them on Khan Academy Kids • The ALSC summer reading list is also a great resource • There are some free resources included on Reading A-Z and a membership could be purchased: https://www.readinga-z.com/ • Ebooks - https://www.nypl.org/books-music-movies/ebookcentral/simple
11:30-12:00am	Break. Ideally run around and play outside. For inside play check out Go Noodle. https://www.gonoodle.com/

12:00-1:00pm	Lunch - Listen to an educational podcast! Try Wow in the World! If you like science, Stories Podcast or Circle Round to hear a story, or Noodle Loaf to learn about music!
1:00-1:30 pm	<p>Ascend Daily Writer's Workshop Lesson – Videos of new writing content will be available on Google Classrooms for you! Watch the video teaching you writing techniques and complete the work that comes with your video!</p> <p><u>Additional resources & Writing ideas for families</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write and draw pictures using engaging Writing prompts. Here are some examples for you to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imagine a giant box is delivered to your front doorstep with your name on it. What's inside and what happens when you open it? • Write a short story about what it might be like if you woke up one morning with a mermaid tail. • Which is better, winter or summer? Write about the reasons why you think winter or summer is better. • Write about what it would be like if you had an alligator as a pet. • If you had \$1,000, what would you buy and why? • Write a story using these 5 words: apple, train, elephant, paper, banjo • What do you want to be when you grow up and why? • Who is your favorite person on the planet? What do you like most about that person? • If you could have any secret super power, what would you want it to be and why? • Write about 3 places you would like to travel someday. What do these three places have in common? • Write about a time you felt really happy. What happened? What made you feel happy? • Imagine what would happen if someone shrunk you down to be only 1" tall. How would your life change? • If you were in charge of the whole world, what would you do to make the world a happier place? • Write a story about what it would be like to climb to the very top of the highest mountain in the world.
1:30-2:00 pm	Ascend Daily Read Aloud Lesson – Videos of new read aloud stories will be available on Google Classrooms for you to watch! Watch the video two times and enjoy the story!
2:00-2:30 pm	<p>Ascend Daily Science/Specials Lesson - Videos of new science/specials content will be available on Google Classrooms for you! Watch the video teaching you new scientific ideas or electives skills and complete the handout that comes with your video!</p> <p>Check out some resources at the Liberty Science Center!</p>
2:30-4:00 pm	Continue your work as needed, submit your assignments, spend time with family, incorporate some movement and play before dinner and we will see you tomorrow!

Virtual classroom expectations

As we start using our computers to learn remotely, you will now be asked to communicate with your teachers and classmates using new channels and in new contexts. While a lot may feel different learning from your home instead of your classroom, we continue to maintain high expectations of one another and live out our Ascend values in our virtual classrooms. In addition to the code of conduct that we typically abide by, the following expectations apply when engaging in remote learning.

- Though students may be at home, each Google Classroom will be treated like their classroom in the Ascend school building. The same expectations set in school will hold true in Google Classrooms.
- **Clothing**: Students should always be fully dressed and keep in mind that clothes will be visible to peers and teachers if participating in videoconferences.
- **Environment**: If your video is turned on, teachers and classmates can see not only you but also the background behind you. Make sure the background of the video does not show anything you would want to keep private.
- **Language**: As in our school buildings, there should be no cursing, harassment, or bullying and no vulgar, abusive, or threatening language.
- **Multi-tasking**: While you may be at home, you are still learning and working. Eliminate distractions by putting away your phone and closing running applications on your computer.
- **Platforms for communication**: Communicate with teachers through the platforms identified by your school leaders. Do not communicate with teachers in private chat rooms.