

Indigo Parent Meeting 9/18/20

Reader's Workshop:

- Our goal is to cultivate voracious readers
- Ms. Regina has nearly finished assessing everyone except for 2 or 3 students.
- The assessments allow us to get more specific support for individual students
- Data from two programs to see where students are strong in reading and what areas they need support:
 - Lexia allows us to scale to a student's level. It allows teachers to see where students are.
 - Used Learning A-Z in the past. This allows students to access reading material at their just right level.
 - Three components:
 - Listen to a story
 - Read independently
 - Answer questions about the story
 - It gives teachers feedback/data on what specifically they need to work on
 - Some families are having trouble using the Learning A-Z App. Platform has changed some as well as name from previous years used. Regina is working on getting better instructions and will re-post the assignment.
 - Sometimes the letter correlation system in Learning A-Z will be a little different from the letter they have been given in class. Ms. Regina has correlated the systems thus you can trust the level your student has been assigned.
- Will begin to roll out added structure to Reader's Workshop next week
- *Kids will log in at the same time* but during their solo reading time they will be reading with a group of two other students and an adult reading buddy every other week.
 - This mirrors our in class structure but a small group of 3 with an adult instead of one on one due to zoom teaching restrictions.
 - One day of said week your student will be with their reading buddies group.
 - In the alternate week student will meet with Ms. Regina in small groups.
- During Reader's Workshop student's must be reading at their just right level
- Outside of Reader's Workshop they can read whatever they like.
- Set goals and support and watch them meet them.
- Reading Levels:
 - Ms. Regina will be giving students their reading levels (individually). She doesn't usually give reading levels to parents until November.
 - Range for 2nd graders for November is J, K, L.
 - Ranger for 3rd Graders for November N.
 - Please don't tell the kids the level they are striving towards.

- Teachers will set goals with them individually.
- Growth mindset! Positivity and celebration of all steps along the way even though she knows where she wants to get them.
- Scholastic Book Wizard is a great tool. Plug in the title of a book and it will give you the letter level of the book or plug in a reading level and get book recommendations.
- Scholastic Book order - Paper Catalogues in our first distribution (Oct. 2)

Writing:

- Donor's Choose Book Project was 100% funded by 7am. The kids will all get journals/books to write in this year. Thank you!

Paper and Pencil:

- Second and third grade are a really, really important growth period for fine motor skills (writing and penmanship)
- Students are receiving less guided practice on this than they would in the classroom
- Parent reminders will be helpful, such as, "the letters should be sitting on the line."
- Regarding spelling, encourage them to use the sounds, write words in terms of how they think they sound (not worried about 100% accuracy). Please do not correct their spelling, write or type their work.

Technology Issues:

- Remember that teachers have synchronous activities almost all day. If you are experiencing technology issues please email them for informational purposes although they will not be able to help during the day.
- Reach out to Erica Terry for Tech Issues - ericaterry@gmail.com
- Spelling City:
 - Make sure Indigo is capitalized, Name Capitalized. No spaces.
 - Username: IndigoName
 - Password: NameBin#

Fostering Independence:

- Seeking to develop students who love learning and develop students that are self guided and self motivated learners.
- Really ask that we support our kiddos through questioning. Let them go through their challenges. Let them ask teachers questions.
- Zoom time is "Indigo Cluster Time" - time for them to develop an independent relationship with teachers. Parents shouldn't be close by.
- Remember, as much as possible, create a good work space with adequate space to do work, lighting, and access to their bins.
- Only help them with Seesaw at specified times to foster a sense of independence.
- Schedule check ins to maintain accountability. Let them know the plan, even come up with a plan with them.

SeeSaw for Families:

- Teachers will be reminding us via Seesaw. That will be our streamlined communication process between parents and teachers.

Curricular Support

- Science:
 - More experiments to come! Advance notice if more intense materials are needed
 - Students are in different places with experiences and knowledge. Some students already knew the answer to our science question. However experiments highlight experience as cited evidence to back up things we think we know or have heard. Lived experience better informs your ability to talk about something.
 - Welcome the opportunity to extend with our children. Look at other ways to approach the questions being asked. Further exploring is encouraged.
 - Kids and parents can always add extra notes, videos, messages about other things kids are doing. Post in SeeSaw. Love and welcome that!

Workload Question:

- How do you feel about your child's ability to complete the work they have been assigned within one week?
 - 89% voted their child was able to finish work at current load.
- Would you like more work/extension?
 - Just over 75% voted the workload was sufficient as is.
 - Some said extension projects would be welcomed.

Potential Math Facts Programs:

- The program used in the classroom was not just based on facts but based on strategies to learn math facts. Equipped students with strategies for computation of larger numbers. She does a lot to teach the strategies in the classroom - less time on zoom. Research of a replacement is in progress. We also may just use flash cards. Stay tuned.

Community Building Survey:

- Coming soon along with **Volunteer Support requests**

Office Hours:

- By appointment, Wednesday and Thursday
- Sometimes that appointment is teacher generated
- Next Friday begins drop in office hours for parents. Keep them brief. Quick check in and request clarification.

Reminders:

- Log on to zoom through Schoology for safety purposes. LAUSD is mandating it. Do it for the protection and safety of our kids.