

# Welcome to Distance Learning

\*Assignment Directions for first lesson\*

Please write a strong and organized letter, using multiple paragraphs, in the TEAMS assignment called “Distance Learning 1 Letter.” As you write, be mindful of your sentence structure, capitals, punctuation, and spelling.

In your letter, you can tell me what you’ve been up to this past week. What have you been doing at home? Do you have any good news or anything to share? I have missed all your fun stories!!

I would also like you to tell me about your thoughts on Distance Learning. What are you excited about? What makes you feel stressed or nervous? What are some things that you hope we can do using this platform for teaching and learning?

When you are done, please submit your assignment through TEAMS.

Let me know if you have any questions!! 😊

\*Below you can see my letter that I wrote to you as a sample of what yours could look like. 😊\*

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear students,

What a crazy time this has been! I had no idea on Thursday when class ended that I would not be seeing you again for so long. I have really missed you sharing your stories through Good News and your smiling faces in my classroom. I hope you all have been able to use this time to enjoy relaxing at home, getting some projects done around the house, and just enjoying some downtime.

I have spent my time off taking care of my son, Charlie. Unfortunately, Charlie had the flu, which then became a double ear infection! Now that he is better, we have spent some time writing stories together, reading books, working in his math workbook, playing soccer, and going for walks around our neighborhood. I have also enjoyed sleeping in and not having to wake up each morning at 6:30am. I even got some cleaning done and some online shopping done, too. It felt good to get myself all organized!

Now, a new chapter is beginning as we start our Distance Learning. Mrs. Close and I have been working together to develop some writing lessons for you. I am excited to reconnect with each of you and get back to teaching. It will certainly look and feel different, but one thing is not different, I am still here to support you and help you every step of the way! In a way, I am looking forward to trying this new way of teaching and learning. I think it will actually be fun to try out some different online platforms.

I am also looking forward to setting up a Zoom session with you all in the next few weeks. I will be organizing it by blocks so that we don't have 95 students all trying to talk to each other at one

time. ☺ Each of my blocks will eventually get an invitation to a Zoom call. It will have a special code that you need to get into the call. You don't need to pay for this program or download anything if you use Safari. This is not mandatory, and no lessons will be provided on this platform, so if your parents prefer you to not use Zoom, that's okay. It will just be a nice way to connect "face-to-face," chat a little, and reengage ourselves into our new virtual class!

I cannot wait to get started and hear from each one of you! Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. I know technology can be wonderful when it works and tricky when it doesn't. Don't forget that I am here for you throughout this.

Fondly,  
Mrs. Rayner