August 4, 2020

Dear Kimmel Farm Students & Families:

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year. For many of you, it is a warm welcome back; and for other families, it is a new educational journey for your children. We are honored to partner with you to create memories and establish a successful foundation of learning!

We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child’s education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children’s success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities.

This year our new remote learning environment will be much different than what we were able to offer in the spring of 2020:

* A standard curriculum from the NC Department of Public Instruction will be used across the district.
* Students’ work will be graded, and attendance will be taken.- no exceptions
* Students generally will spend 3.5-4 hours a day in live, interactive (synchronous) sessions with teachers and classmates and approximately 1-2 hours a day completing self-paced (asynchronous)activities.
* Teachers and staff will have clearly defined roles and expectations and will regularly check on students.
* The first few days of school will be devoted to easing everyone into the virtual learning environment.

**Instructional Day:**

At Kimmel Farm, we understand the impact virtual learning will have on families. Many parents are trying to arrange childcare/supervision and continue to work in order to provide for the family. For remote learning, each family will be able to choose when you would like your child(ren) to participate in LIVE, interactive, on-line instruction with his/her classroom teacher and support staff. Live instruction will be provided during the morning and afternoon. Each block of instruction will last 3:5-4 hours, including three 10 minute breaks. The times are as follows:

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Live-Interactive Face to Face with the staff | Self Paced, Parent Guided Support |
| AM Instructional Session1 | 8:30-12:10 (including specials) | 12:45-4:20 (including lunch) |
| AM Instructional Session2 | 9:05-12:45 (including specials) | 12:45-4:20 (including lunch) |
| PM Instructional Session1  | 12:15-3:45 (including specials) | 8:30-12:15(including lunch) |
| PM Instructional Session2 | 12:50-4:20 (including specials) | 8:30-12:45(including lunch) |

. \*\* You will decide if you would like your child to participate in specials before or after core instruction.

Therefore, based on your individual family situation you will select AM instructional session OR PM instructional session. For example: My daughter is a 1st grader here at Kimmel Farm. I have flexibility with my job to work in the afternoon. I am available to support my daughter with virtual learning in the morning, but I will need to report to work by 1:30pm. I am going to choose AM Instructional schedule2 for her live instruction. She will begin Core instruction (reading, math, science and small group) at 9:05. She will participate in specials from 12:15-12:45. She will end her day with live instruction at 12:45. She will complete the self- paced activities with my childcare provider while I am at work.

It is our hope that allowing you the opportunity to choose when your child will participate in LIVE instruction will have a positive impact on student engagement and performance as well as decrease the amount of screen time a child is experiencing during the day. Please discuss these options with family members. To select your choice of instruction, please scan the QR code with the camera app on your phone and complete the form. This form can also be found our website.

Classroom Instruction Survey



**Classroom Assignment:** You will find your child’s teacher assignment and room number at the end of this letter. Classroom assignments are tentative. There may be a need for reorganization of teacher assignments based on student enrollment numbers. Should your child’s classroom assignment need to change you will be contacted via phone prior to the change in placement.

**Open House:** Open House will be held virtually during the week of August 11- 14. Your child’s teacher will be in touch with you to set up a time that is convenient for your family to participate. During your scheduled time please make sure your child is participating in the conference. The teachers will walk you through logging into a device and first day expectations.

On Wednesday, August 12th, the administrative staff, (Principals and Assistant Principals) will be available from 5:30-7:30 to answer any questions you may have concerning the school year. Please visit our website for the link to participate.

**Technology Support:** Technology is a vital component to remote learning! As a district we understand the support that is needed to ensure students are successful during the first 9 weeks. To help with the basics of online instruction, enclosed you will find instructions for logging on to a computer and logging into the instructional platform Canvas. This information can also be found on our website as well as the district website.

**Joining the PTA:** We have an AWESOME Parent Teacher Association (PTA) here at Kimmel Farm. This group of individuals go above and beyond to make sure our students and teachers are provided with enriching opportunities to support all of the hard work being done in this school. Please plan to join this year! The cost is $6 per family. This is a small price to pay for such a worthy cause! Our PTA is committed to supporting student achievement. They provide student agendas(calendars) for our 3-5th students, writing journals for K-2 students, quarterly awards certificates, staff appreciation lunches and instructional materials and supplies for classroom teachers. This is an invaluable resource for our school! Our goal for membership is 250 members. Please help us reach this goal! All checks are to be made out to Kimmel Farm Elementary PTA or you can go on line and pay at <https://kimmelfarm.memberhub.com/dues>.

As we navigate this school year, please understand we are in this together. Communication is key to a successful partnership. Please refer to our school website for updates and information. If you need to contact me please email me at cctribby@wsfcs.k12.nc.us or you can call the school at (336)703-6760.

In the words of Buzz Light year “To infinity and beyond”…., WE ARE KIMMEL FARM STRONG!

In service of children,

Celena Tribby

Celena C. Tribby

Principal