

Affirm, Refine, Aspire

HS4 Learning Services Newsletter - 5/29/20

Parents & Educators: Partners in Learning

As teachers, we have always known the key role that parents play in the education of our students, and never before has it been more prevalent that parents are the primary educators of our children. Although parents have always appreciated the work of teachers, I think the global pandemic has emphasized just how much our parents value their child's teachers and all of the staff involved in their child's journey in education.

We know that teaching is a very difficult task, and for many of us who are also parents, we know that teaching your own child brings a whole new level of challenge and complexity! This edition of "Affirm, Refine, Aspire" is dedicated to supporting our parents, who are navigating the world of helping to educate their child at home, all while still running a household, working from home themselves. and managing all of the anxieties and stressors that come along with a global pandemic. We hope you are able to find some helpful resources for yourself and some to pass along to your parents to help support them in their child's learning!

Carmen Larsen
Director of Learning

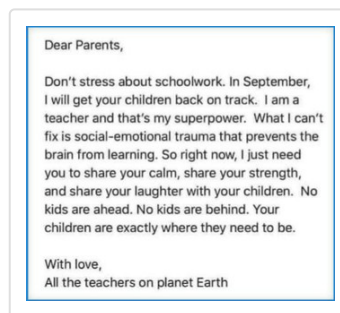
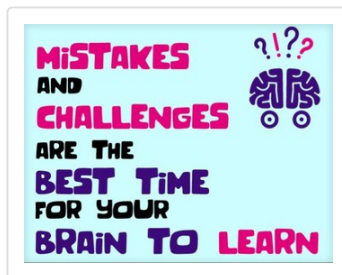
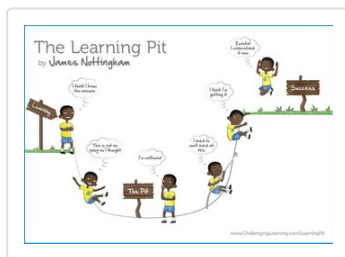
Supporting Parents with At-Home Learning

The involvement of a responsible adult, typically a parent, is critical to the success of online learners. K-12 learners need the support of a caring adult to build executive functioning, manage their workload and maintain motivation. Teachers can support parents in this role by implementing a few key practices:



* Recognize that there are differences in opportunities and resources among students. Where possible, build choice into assignments, make connections to daily life, and be flexible with due dates. Consider low-tech and outdoor learning options.

- * Keep instructions simple, organized, predictable and brief.
- * Keep the lines of communication open. Set aside time to answer questions from parents, and ensure they know when you're available to meet with students. Consider using a brief survey to find out what kinds of support may be needed.
- * Help parents adopt the perspective that tasks are about learning, rather than work completion. Let them know you believe that the child's well-being is more important than getting everything done.
- * Keep expectations reasonable, and set specific, achievable goals. Continue to focus on essential outcomes, and differentiate tasks or consider reducing the workload according to individual learning needs.
- * Offer encouragement and validation. Many parents are worried about how the cancellation of classes will affect their child's education, and may feel inadequate about their ability to support learning at home. Your reassurance during this challenging time will be appreciated.



Suggestions to Share with Parents/Guardians

*Try to **maintain** a regular (but flexible) schedule for learning activities. Routines can support your child's learning habits, especially as the weather gets warmer.

* **Encourage** your child to stay in communication with their teacher. Maintaining this connection and having the opportunity to ask questions and get feedback will help maintain learning as a priority.

* **Help** your child see the connections between what they're learning and daily life. Talk together about how topics of study relate to current events, your work life, or your interests.

* **Recognize** your child's efforts to continue learning during this challenging time. Focus on the positives you see in their growth, work habits and accomplishments.

* **Encourage** your child to embrace "a culture of challenge, curiosity, reflection, and resilience" ([Learning Pit](#)). By having students ask questions, take risks and try new things, we are asking them to develop new abilities and to grow in their understanding.

Help Parents Understand Assessment

Letter grades. Percentages. These forms of assessment are familiar to most adults from their own school experiences. All parents want to see their children succeed, but without traditional grading systems, they may feel unsure about their child's achievement. But, as Rick Wormeli says, **students don't need grades to learn.**

Students are completing tasks at home with varying levels of parental support. While parent involvement in education is known to have a positive impact on learning, it is possible to have too much of a good thing when students are not given opportunities to make mistakes, self-assess, or exercise autonomy. Knowing that your purpose is to support ongoing learning, rather than make a judgment, will **help parents determine how much help to provide.**

Clear communication about the learning process and specific feedback are essential.

Support parents in viewing tasks as tools for gathering information about their child's learning and determining next steps for instruction.

Resources to Share

Is our "new normal" an opportunity to build a stronger relationship with parents?

[Caring for the Parent-Teacher Relationship during COVID-19](#)
[Supporting Kids During the Coronavirus Crisis](#)

[Anxiety and Coping With Coronavirus](#)

[Strategies for Managing When you're Going it Alone](#)

[Supporting Children With Autism During the Coronavirus Outbreak](#)

[How to Motivate Your Children During Remote Learning: Tips for Parents](#)

[Quick Tips to Support Your Children in Learning At Home](#)

[Helping parents through COVID-19 and beyond](#)

[ARPDC Resources for Parents](#)

[22 Remote Learning Tips For Parents Helping At Home](#)

[How Parents Can Help Their Kids While Managing Distance Learning - MindShift](#)

[16 Everyday Activities That Totally Count as Learning](#)

This is where the learning happens; productive struggle enables students to become fully engaged learners.

Source: [Involving Parents in Assessment](#)

[How Can Educators Tap Into Research to Increase Engagement During Remote Learning?](#)

[Four Core Priorities for Trauma-Informed Distance Learning - MindShift](#)

Soutenir les parents en immersion et FSL

Félicitations ! Bien arrivé à la fin de mai. La tâche de soutenir les élèves dans une autre langue quand ils ne viennent pas à l'école semble énorme, mais n'oubliez pas:

1. Cette situation est temporaire. Ça vas bien aller.
2. La numératie et littératie sont universel, et la pratique dans la langue maternelle soutient le développement dans la langue cible.
3. Les élèves apprennent l'indépendance, la créativité et des compétences technologiques.
4. On veut surtout soutenir l'importance et la joie d'apprendre une autre langue.
5. Encourager et célébrer les succès des parents. Partagez ce lien à l'affiche CPF pour rappeler aux familles que ça va bien aller, et nous avons hâte de revoir les élèves dans nos salles de classes.



Supporting Your French Immersion Student During Remote Learning.pdf

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488.8 KB



Holy Spirit Catholic Schools

Learning Services
620 - 12b Street North
Lethbridge, Alberta
T1H 2L7

Lethbridge, AB, Canada

403 327 9555

learningservices@holyspirit.ab...

holyspirit.ab.ca

