

Dear Middle School Parents,

Your children's teachers have been extremely busy navigating this new way of teaching to be ready to give your children the quality education you have come to expect. We have all learned a lot since last spring. The difference between going on-line in March and now is that last year was really "emergency learning." Now teachers are ready for high-quality remote, virtual, on-line learning that is still experiential!

A big part of the success of this semester is going to be in having patience with one another. Our teachers are committed to bringing as much grace as possible to their students and families, and we ask that you have patience with us. Another big part for success is going to be with communication. Teachers and staff have been diligently calling families both to give and gain information. To help streamline communication, email will be the first line of information dispersal. **Your child's link for getting into their Zoom Classroom on Monday morning will be sent to the email address you provided your child's teacher when they called, and it will be sent to your child's *aldostudents.org* Gmail account.** If you have not gotten back to your child's grade level teacher, please do so before Saturday night.

Middle School 1st week (Aug 3 – 7) Zoom Classrooms 8:30 am: Parents, please look for an email with the Zoom link. Teachers also are sending the Zoom link to students at their *aldostudents.org* email.

- On Monday, middle school students will log into Zoom by grade level to meet with their grade level teachers at 8:30 am. Attendance will be taken, so the secretaries and Miss Bailey can call students who didn't get logged on to see if they can help.
- Students will begin the year by getting to know one another, catching up with friends, and figuring out this new style of learning. Students will dismiss at 11:30 and then teachers will be available in the afternoon to help students as they practice logging into their google classrooms—details on that will be given in the morning.
- 6th grade students will meet with Mr. Cantrell in the morning via Zoom and the afternoon will be reserved for orientation in small groups of families (contact Mr. Cantrell if you haven't scheduled a time).
- The first week will all be grade level meetings. It will be a time for students to reacquaint themselves to one another and meet new students in their grade. It will be a time to get proficient at logging into Zoom, Google Classroom and Google email. It will be a time to reimagine how to connect with one another and to get excited about learning. Mini Villages will begin week 2 in some new and creative ways!

Orientation for Middle School Families

- 6th grade: by appointment with Mr. Cantrell. He is contacting families to schedule an in-person, outdoor meeting so that students and parents can get the lay of the land.
- 7th grade: 6pm – 7pm via Zoom; email invitation sent out to families.
- 8th grade: 5pm—6pm via Zoom; email invitation sent out to families.

By the way, the Middle School is now located at Ritch Hall on WNMU campus. YEAH!!!