April 13, 2020 Email from Principal Kim Kubisch

Dear Families,

THE PARADE WAS A HUGE SUCCESS, THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR SAFE PARTICIPATION, YOUR SIGNS, YOUR COMMENTS, AND YOUR PRESENCE!! We miss our students and their families so much!! It was so wonderful for all of us to see so many of you!!

WE DO LEARN THE BEST AT NES!!!

Important Reminders for Families

- As of last week (4/6/20), we have begun required remote learning. This is no longer optional. Students are to participate in online zoom sessions, small group sessions, and do padlet work. Teachers are taking attendance for each session as this is required work now. Students must attend and participate.

- We know that you have been receiving multiple emails. Please understand that we are doing the best we can (and learning right along with you) to best support your children. We know and trust that you are doing the same. We promise we will get through this together! If your child receives any services in: Special Education, therapies, English Learner, reading intervention, social work, etc., you would have received emails from each of those providers. We worked very hard to build schedules for each child. Our collective hope is that with these schedules, things will settle into a routine for your households. Should you have any questions or concerns, please let your child's classroom teacher know.

- Our students will need your assistance to get online. We are trying to balance teaching and limited screen time. If you are having difficulty with technical issues, please report this to your classroom teacher.

- The padlet is easy to find. You can go on the District website www.npsk.org, then click on schools, select Nantucket Elementary School, and scroll down. You will find the links to click on. The padlets have required work, games, specialist tasks and projects, helpful hints, read alouds, etc. As a parent, this should be a very helpful tool for you in planning student work for the rest of their day and week.

- We will have next Monday, 4/20 as a State holiday. There will be no meetings, small groups, zooms, etc. expected by you for your students on Monday. You will pick back up with Remote Learning on Tuesday, 4/21 and follow the Tuesday schedule.

- April Break - we will not be having a week long April Break this school year. We feel that students are just getting in the groove of their new learning in this virtual way and technically, there is no where for anyone to go. Missing the April break means we will be ending school on Tuesday, June 23 (as opposed to Monday, June 29).
• Some families have inquired about retention. No student will be retained because of their learning in this virtual time period. This is a Global Pandemic and there is nothing any of us could have done. The only students we will consider for retention are students we have already discussed with parents and/or it will be listed in the report card coming out 4/17/20. We will also have another conversation with you before the end of the year for these particular children.

• In addition, some families have asked questions about grading during this remote learning time. We are working on a plan for our school regarding grading and feedback, and we are still awaiting guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. As soon as our plan is in place, we will articulate this to all of you.

• Report cards will be published in Aspen after 3:00 pm on Friday, 4/17/20. No report cards will be mailed for this term. Due to the interruption of teaching and learning this term, some of the standards taught and introduced this trimester were not practiced or assessed to the sufficient depth or mastery intended. Report cards will reflect students’ measured ability up to March 13 instead of the scheduled end of Trimester 2 (March 20). Should you have any difficulty accessing these, please feel free to email Jane Melville at melvillej@npsk.org or for Spanish speakers email Patricia Harding at hardingp@npsk.org.

• We are collecting parent emails regarding student placement for 2020-2021 until this Friday, 4/17/20. Thank you to everyone who has shared this information previously. These emails need to be sent to kubischk@npsk.org by this Friday.

We are so grateful for your support, assistance, feedback, and cooperation. We know this is hard for everyone. Please feel free to email your child's teacher(s), our guidance counselors - Lisa Hood and Jeanne Clark, Patricia Harding, Jane Melville, Kim Albertson, or myself with any questions, concerns, feedback, celebrations, and photos. It has been terrific to get the photos and celebration emails - they are so uplifting!!

Sincerely,

Kim Albertson Assistant Principal  albertsonk@npsk.org
Kim Kubisch Principal  kubischk@npsk.org