

Hello Pirate Parents!

We are so excited for the next phase of our reopening beginning this Monday with Cohort A and Tuesday for Cohort B! The planning has been a process in these continued unprecedented times, and we thank the parents who attended our Safe Reopening Google Meets over the past few weeks. For those of you who were unable to attend, you can view the slide presentation here: [Welcome Back Presentation](#). Please remember to fill out the daily COVID screening form in the Parent Portal everyday your child attends school before 9:00 a.m. You can view a tutorial on how to fill out this form by clicking here: [COVID Screening Form Tutorial](#).

Remember to email your child's teacher, Miss Kelly (ksomma@trschoools.com) and Mrs. Rodgers (drodgers@trschoools.com) if you or another family member will be picking your child(ren) up at Door 17 dismissal as soon as possible so we can prepare social distancing. Please follow the procedure shown during our Safe Return Parent Google Meets this week.

Thank you to our Gr2-5 parents who attended our evening Safe Return/Welcome Back Google Meets throughout this week.

We cannot wait to see our kids in-person! Thank you for your vigilance throughout the process.

Bus Passes are available for you to print in the Parent Portal. Remember to be at the bus stop a few minutes before the scheduled pick-up and they may run late at drop off for the first week or two. KINDERGARTEN AND GRADE 1 STUDENTS may have had their bus number changed- be sure to check the Parent

Portal!

As Mrs. Strouse, Vocal Music teacher, prepares for her retirement on November 1, 2020, she requested for you to kindly share her 'Farewell Letter' with your children:

Dear Boys and Girls - YOU are the Music of My Heart.

Over the years, you and I have learned together, sung together, played music together, moved to music together, and shared a piece of each other's hearts together. For me, as your teacher, it was always about me sharing my joy, my excitement, and my love of music with you. And more. I always said to you that even if music wasn't your "thing," that maybe you'd learn how important it was - and still is - to be kind, to show respect to others, and to respect yourself, too.

I have taught music in the Toms River School District for 37 years.

During those years, I have taught some of your parents, some of your teachers, (Mrs. Cooper) their children, the grandchildren of my first principal that hired me at Hooper Avenue Elementary, (Reagan, Joey Catalano) Toms River celebrities, (yes - that's you, Todd Frazier!) and their children. I have had the privilege of working with fantastic administrators and some top-notch colleagues. I have truly been blessed.

One of my First Graders (knowing that I was retiring) recently asked me why I wanted to be a Music Teacher. For me, the answer to that question was - and still is - an easy one. I always knew that I wanted to be a teacher, because when I was a little girl, my two sisters and I used to "play school," complete with the blackboard and chalk! It wasn't until high school, when my high school choir teacher inspired me to pursue my musical passion.

Boys and girls - I hope that you are as lucky as I have been; finding something that you love doing! Because then, it won't just be your job,

but it will become who you are as a person. Find your talent; your passion. And ALWAYS remember that I love you, and I will miss you!

Mrs. Strouse

Please see important information from our Food Services Department:

[november.tif](#)

We will allow for Halloween Dress-up on Wednesday, October 28th for Cohort A and Thursday, October 29th for Cohort B. Virtual students may dress either day, and we will have a 'Pajama Day' for all on Friday, October 30, 2020. Please see attached letter for dress up details:

[20201019103449732.pdf](#)

School is closed for Teacher's Convention and Fall Break from Monday, November 2, 2020-Friday, November 8, 2020. School reopens on Monday, November 9, 2020.

In the classrooms...

This week Mrs. Gottlieb's class has been learning about rhyming words. They loved reading the book *There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed A Fly*. They even played a rhyming game that went along with the story. Mrs. Gottlieb is so proud of everyone's 'Character Pumpkin' book report! They all look fantastic. Please continue to review sight words at home.

The 5th graders continue to work extremely well in our virtual classroom. We are so excited to see our students next week for our first week of hybrid learning. In language arts, students have continued to work on a bevy of literary skills as they comprehend the novels *Shiloh* and *Love That Dog*. In

math, students have used estimation as a tool to help conquer long division word problems. Students have continued their work in our food chain unit, and continue to analyze and experiment with different decomposers. The 5th grade continues to rock during October!!

Mr. DeRiggi

Fourth Graders have begun to read Journey to the Center of the Earth and will be focusing on character development. In math, we are starting to review Unit 1. The students have been learning a lot about the different types of volcanoes from mystery science. Mrs. Saylor

Mr. Rielly's technology classes began their digital citizenship unit by learning about internet safety, cyberbullying and appropriate online behavior. After reviewing the content on the websites listed below, third grade classes created internet safety posters and fourth and fifth graders made cyberbullying posters. For more information visit these great digital citizenship resources: digitalpassport.org/ [Cyber 5 Internet Safety Rules](#) [BrainPop Internet Safety](#)

Have a wonderful weekend with family and friends. We are so grateful for your continued support and cooperation as we prepare to welcome all of our in-person students back to school next week!

Sincerely,

Ms. Colleen McGrath, Principal

Mrs. Dina O'Donnell, Supervisor of Instruction