



THE LINKS SCOOP

Bringing you everything you need to know.

From the Editors:

As this school year comes to an end, we wanted to make sure to publish one last issue to bring you the very latest from the Links. Our building may be closed, but classes went on and students, parents, teachers, and administrators have been hard at work the entire time. Due to school closures, our newspaper students were unable to brainstorm, interview and write articles in the way they were taught to do throughout the school year. This issue has been compiled by the editors based on journals that our newspaper students have submitted as classwork, journals entries from other students, parent and teacher questionnaires, and a few articles from the editors. We wanted to thank those parents and teachers for participating, as our distance learning articles would not be possible without your help. We also wanted to take the time to congratulate our newspaper students for doing a great job throughout the school year and for unknowingly providing us with the information we needed to put this issue together. We hope everyone has enjoyed our newspaper this year!



Mrs. Ana
Editor-in-chief



Ms. Lambda
Managing Editor



Ms. Sally
Design Editor

A Sincere Thank You

Due to COVID-19, the majority of local businesses were demanded to close temporarily. When this all started, everyone imagined things going back to normal within two weeks- three tops. Unfortunately, that was not the case as it has been two months and counting. However, although local businesses were shut down, some people were still out working. These people were known as “essential workers”. An essential employee is someone that performs work involving the safety of human life and the protection of property. Some examples of essential workers are pharmacy employees, police officers, firefighters, paramedics, doctors and nurses, food and agricultural workers, airport workers, teachers and many more. We would like to thank each and every one of those employees who have made the sacrifice to continue working through such hard times, making sure our community is keeping safe and healthy.



A Typical School Day

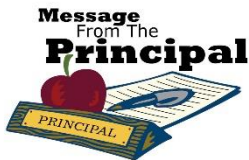
A typical school day at Learning Links begins with students arriving to school either during morning care hours or through our morning carpool drop-off. All classes begin promptly at 9 a.m. with their morning greeting which includes taking attendance and watching the school news among other things. Students then follow their daily routine. Primary classes stay with their teacher throughout the school day to cover their core subjects: reading, mathematics, science and social studies. Intermediate classes switch between two teachers throughout the day: one teaches reading and social studies, the other math and science. STRIDE and PACE students follow an A/B schedule depending on the day of the week. Students have three classes per day for a total of six classes. They have different teachers for each of their core subject and electives. STEPS students also follow an A/B schedule, where they join some academic classes, work on independent skills, and help around the building by completing custodial/secretarial tasks. Primary, Intermediate, STRIDE, and 9th grade PACE students all have a set time for physical education (P.E.). Students either bring their own lunch or order from Everyday Foodies. They eat in the cafeteria or Teen Café at their set time where they can sit and chat with their friends. Students are expected to wear their school uniform Monday-Thursday. On Fridays, students may wear their yellow Friday t-shirt and jeans. Fridays are a special day at Learning Links for students as they can eat pizza, take a trip to the school store, and watch a movie at the end of the day. The school day ends with students leaving during their dismissal time or waiting to be picked-up in our after-school care program.



Distance Learning

Administrator Point of View:

On March 16th, 2020, the school year was turned upside down, however, we wanted to make sure that all our students and parents transitioned as smoothly as possible with as much support as we could provide. The one thing we immediately missed the most was the opportunity to see our students' faces every day and be a part of their day-to-day learning. We are looking forward to, hopefully, returning back to normal in order to share the many experiences we have with our students and teachers.



Student Point of View:

Since March 16th, students have had to adapt to a new way of learning from home. They log in Monday-Friday to their zoom meetings which last 30 minutes. These meetings give students a chance to see their teachers and friends. Most students wear comfortable clothing or even their pajamas, although a select few still wear their uniform. Students can wake up later, eat lunch with their family, and spend more time with their loved ones including pets. Dining rooms, bedrooms, and home offices have become the new “classroom” for students. Some students complete their work with help from a parent or grandparent, while others complete their work independently. Some students have expressed that they are able to finish their work early which leaves them time to play whatever they want, while others have had trouble keeping up with their classwork. One thing is for sure, this is a very different way of learning than what our students are used to. Some students enjoy learning from home and have said they prefer it. Others have said that they hate learning from home and cannot wait to return to the classroom. Most students have said that while they have more time to relax and play, they miss their friends and teachers a lot! Noah Torres (8th grade) said, “Sometimes it’s hard being away from my friends and teachers, but I try to enjoy it and make the best of it.”



Parent Point of View:

Parents have played a big role in our students' education this past quarter, however, not every parent's distance learning experience has been the same. Some parents did not have to work while helping their child. Some had to work but thankfully had someone else to help their child. Some had to balance working from home and helping their child. Others had to keep going to work and helped their child once they returned home. Regardless of the scenario, all parents deserve a round of applause for making it through this difficult time. All parents who completed the questionnaire said they felt that their child's teacher(s) had been supportive and mentioned that teachers have been amazing, made themselves available to help, and even modified the schoolwork if needed. Some parents felt the transition from learning at school to home was easy, some felt it went smoothly, but the majority felt that it was a difficult transition. Having to work at the same time as having to help their child made this difficult. Students sometimes see school as a place for work and home as a place to relax and have fun so having to do their work at home made the transition difficult for a lot of our students. After establishing a routine and some passing of time, students became accustomed to the new way of learning and were more willing to do their work. Some parents expressed that they wish zoom meetings could be a little longer and felt that some classes were not as productive with the meetings as others. With every week that passed, learning from home was more organized in all aspects. Working from home allowed for parents and children to bond in a different way and strengthened relationships. One parent said, "This experience has been a constant reminder of how much a good school with great teachers and staff is vital to my child's development. You are greatly loved and appreciated. We miss you all!"



Teacher Point of View:



From one day to the next, teachers had to adjust the way they taught. They could no longer be in the classroom with their students and had to provide students and parents with everything they would need to successfully learn from home. Our school has a hands-on approach to teaching which involves whole group instruction, small group instruction, and center-based instruction where students work 2:1 or even 1:1 with teachers which often involves the use of manipulatives. School closures were announced late afternoon on

Friday once school was out for the day. Teachers spent their weekend researching, planning, and typing up documents in preparation for what was to come with the majority, if not all of their supplies in their classroom. When Monday came, teachers only had a few hours to plan, put together work packets for students including a daily schedule and detailed instructions on how to complete each individual assignment, make copies and scan packets. These packets reflected each student's academic level meaning one class could have four different packets. Teachers took all this into account and made it work week after week. Most teachers even worked during their spring break to try to make distance learning go as smoothly as possible for everyone. They had to take into consideration that not every student's distance learning experience would be the same and had to find the balance between sending too much work and too little work. They had never used Zoom or a lot of the different online platforms students may have been assigned. They had to learn how to use it themselves so they could then teach students and parents how to use them. Zoom made things a little easier because it provided a way for students and teachers to see each other. It gave teachers a chance to explain the classwork, answer questions, teach a lesson, and sometimes even play some games. Teachers truly miss being in the classroom and interacting with their students catering to the different learning styles. One teacher said, "A lot is out of my control in distance learning. I can plan and give all the resources needed to make my students succeed, but I know that, ultimately, I need to rely on my students' parents. I am truly thankful because without the teamwork between teachers and parents, this wouldn't be possible."

Earth Day

Earth Day occurs every year on April 22nd. It is important to take care of the Earth because it is our home. We can take care of the Earth in many ways. We can reduce the amount of water and electricity we use. Save water by turning off the faucet when we shower and brush our teeth. Save electricity by turning off the lights when exiting a room. By using market bags as trash bags, we can reuse the item again in a different way. We can recycle glass, plastic, and paper by putting them in the recycling bin. Recycled items will then be made into something else. Throw garbage away correctly by putting it into the garbage bin. If you see litter, pick it up to keep the Earth clean. By keeping the Earth clean, we can protect animals, so they do not go extinct. We can walk or ride bike to places so that we keep the air clean. It is also a good idea to plant trees because trees provide oxygen. Learning Links has our very own Green Team which teaches children how to take care of animals, plant and tend to a garden, and reduce, reuse, and recycle. We wanted to give a special shout out to them: Great job Green Team!



Mother's Day

Mother's Day was Sunday, May 10th. Mothers are special women in their children's lives. They take care of their kids, cook their favorite food, and help them with anything they need including homework. They are known for being caring and loving and enjoy getting hugs and kisses. They play hide and seek, teach other languages, dance, and cook with their children. More importantly, they understand their children and comfort them when they are sad. Some kids have said they would give their mom a diamond necklace.



Teacher Appreciation

Teacher appreciation week is celebrated during the first week of May. It is a time for teachers to be recognized for their commitment to education. They play an important role in the lives of children. They teach them how to read, write, add, subtract, multiply, and divide. They teach them about the current world and the past, and how to care for the Earth and animals. They help shape and influence children academically, socially, and emotionally. They guide students throughout their school years and teach them about responsibility. They teach that it is okay to ask for help when it is needed and stand up for what they believe in. They challenge students and push them to follow their dreams. Teachers have very important jobs because children are the future.





A Few Good Laughs to Lighten the Mood



Jokes

Why are skunks always arguing?
Because they like to make a big stink!

What do you get when you cross an elephant with
a fish?
Swimming trunks!

What did the egg say to the dinosaur?
You're egg-stinct.

Why did the teacher wear sunglasses?
Because she had such a bright class.

Why was the math book sad?
Because it had too many problems.

What did the big hand of the clock say to the little
hand?
Got a minute?

What do you call a fake noodle?
An impasta.

What kind of music does your father like to sing?
Pop music.

What kind of cheese do monsters eat?
Monsterella

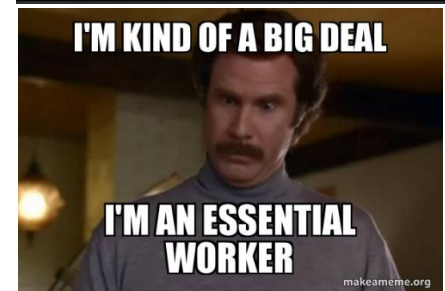
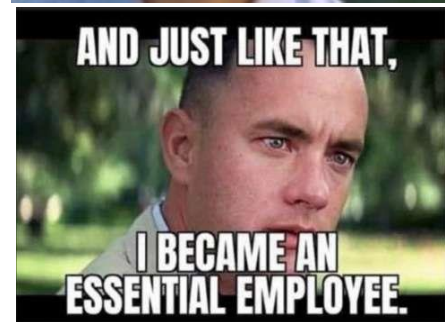
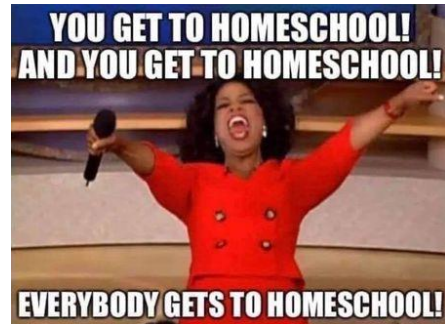
What do you call a witch that lives at the beach?
A sand witch!

How do you fix a broken pizza?
With tomato paste.

What nut is like a sneeze?
A cashew.

What do you call a cow riding a skateboard?
A cow-tastrophe about to happen.

Memes



Parents of little kids trying
to work from home while
schools are closed:



Fun Activities to Do at Home

Have a family dance party.

Try a new cookie or cake recipe.

Go camping in the living room.

Go on an indoor treasure hunt.

Start your own garden.

Make slime.

Make your own popsicles.

Go on a nature scavenger hunt.

Make a maze using painter's tape.

Put on a puppet show.

Make an indoor obstacle course.

Have a spa day.

Create your own dessert.

Make a time capsule.

Build a giant fort using blankets and pillows.

Play indoor volleyball with a balloon.

Exercise Tips

It is important to keep our bodies moving, especially when we are mostly staying home. Use this chart to incorporate exercise into your child's daily routine by spelling names, holidays, cities, foods, movies, etc.

So put on your favorite music and get moving!



Parent & Kiddo Workout

Spell Names, Holidays, etc!

- A 20 High Knees
- B 20 Cross Punches
- C 30 Bridges
- D 20 Skaters or Lateral Hops
- E Run Stairs 2 Times or 20 Bunny Hops
- F 20 Big Arm Circles to the Front, Back
- G 20 Skaters or Lateral Hops
- H Run stairs 2 Times or 20 Bunny Hops
- I 25 Jumping Jacks
- J 20 Cross Punches
- K 20 High Knees
- L 15 Push-ups
- M 10 Crunches
- N 20 Jumping Jacks
- O 10 Crunches
- P 10 Crunches
- Q 15 Push-ups
- R Run Stairs 2 Times or 20 Bunny Hops
- S 30 Bridges
- T 20 Big Arm Circles to the Front, Back
- U 20 Skaters or Lateral Hops
- V 20 High Knees
- W 20 Jumping Jacks
- X 10 Crunches
- Y 30 Bridges
- Z 15 Push-ups

www.knicholastraining.com



Students OF THE MONTH



April

Aiden Balseca
 Leah Escobar
 Emilia Macias
 Daniel Felipe
 Michaela Salkin
 Shaya Vivanco
 Jacob Rousseau
 Cristian Leiva
 Marcel Morejon
 Melissa Guerrero
 Daniel De Freitas
 Alia Jamaledin
 Evan Sarraf
 Gabriel Grullon
 Nicholas Del Sol
 Alex Concepcion
 Adam Hernandez

May

Christopher Elliot
 Daniel Kmak
 Jace Arana
 Daniel Guerra
 Mason Alvarez
 Brandon Morejon
 Erick Jordan
 Devin De Leon
 Sophia Acosta
 Isabela Arellano
 Justin Rodriguez
 Isabella Gonzalez
 Angelie Gutierrez
 Zain Naber
 Sophia Peart
 Sofia Pinero
 Adrian Cabrera

Congratulations Class of 2020:



Joseph Echevarria
 Gabriela Calderon
 Christopher Fernandez
 Daniella Puig
 Kenny Valdes
 Angelie Gutierrez

Sofia Pinero
 Yasar Bendana
 Gaby Baez
 Maximo Ferro
 Adrian Cabrera
 Zain Naber

We hope your dreams take you... to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known.



- 5/2 Benjamin Dietz
- 5/7 Daniel Rosario
- 5/7 Leandro Martinez
- 5/8 Gabriella Calderon
- 5/9 Viridiana Valladares
- 5/15 Ms. Ashley
- 5/16 Luis Gonzalez
- 5/17 Sophia Peart
- 5/22 Ms. Lucy
- 5/27 Julian Conde
- 5/29 Dominick Arisso

Happy Birthday to June, July, and August birthdays.

we're all in this together.

Administrators and Teachers can be reached from 9:30 am – 1:00 pm at: (305) 907-7551

Ext.:

- 1 – Yarisa Valle
- 2 – Olga Ruiz
- 3 – Zaida Garcia
- 700 – Mrs. Ariana Harris
- 701 – Ms. Rachel Barroso
- 702 – Mrs. Bernice & Mrs. Erica
- 703 – Ms. Iris Reconco
- 704 – Ms. Adriana Torres
- 705 – Ms. Johana Mayorga
- 706 – Mrs. Stephanie Elias
- 707 – Ms. Angie Arenas
- 708 – Mrs. Stephanie Hernandez
- 709 – Mrs. Ana Gomez
- 710 – Ms. Lambda Rivera
- 711 – Mr. Dennis Harris
- 712 – Mrs. Diana Molina-Bardino
- 713 – Ms. Jenny Fuentes
- 714 – Ms. Christina Mendoza
- 715 – Ms. Alexas Ramos
- 716 – Mr. Roger Martin
- 717 – Ms. Martina Baldwin
- 718 – Ms. Michelle Cabrera
- 719 – Ms. Artavia

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 22 Last day of Zoom meetings
- May 25 Memorial Day – No School
- May 26 – All classwork must be submitted by 4pm
NO EXCEPTIONS
- May 26 Primary/Intermediate Awards Ceremony
Please see invitation for details
- May 27 STRIDE Awards Ceremony
Please see invitation for details
- May 28 PACE Awards Ceremony
Please see invitation for details
- May 29 Last Day of School



Have a great summer!



Student Reminders:

Zoom classes are done. You made it! Congratulations on a successful 2019-2020 school year despite the big change! We are proud of you!



Staff Reminders:

Remember to come to school clean up your classrooms and pick up completed student packets.



YEARBOOKS



We are happy to announce we will be selling yearbooks! We are currently working on finalizing the 2019-2020 yearbook.

More information will be sent to parents once they are ready, so make sure to check your email throughout the summer!

Want something published in the newspaper- reach out to us!

thelinksscoop@gmail.com



Find us on the web!

<https://thelinksscoop.weebly.com/>