

3/30/2020

Hello Shumate Students and Families,

I'm beyond amazed by how our students, parents, and teachers/staff have adjusted to support the academic, social and emotional needs of our middle schoolers throughout this challenging time. Teachers are still trying to find that "balance" in the review/enrichment work that is given, and students/parents are trying to find the "balance" in managing their own learning schedules. That being said, the only correct answer to this test is simply trying to do better today than we did yesterday. To this end, our Seahawk community is truly excelling!

The term "uncharted waters" has been thrown around by the media quite a bit lately. Yesterday, while passing by the school I noticed an osprey (seahawk) circling over Shumate. While this is certainly not an unusual occurrence, I was struck with the metaphorical circumstances that connect our current situation to that of our mascot. After all, even while soaring above uncharted waters, the seahawk knows it can rely on its skills, knowledge and determination to find everything it needs to thrive, even in uncharted waters.

We'll continue to keep you up to date using these updates, while trying not to overburden you with emails. Please see below for useful information regarding the week ahead.

Grades/Grading

At this time, we are not planning to release official quarter 3 grades. Instead, we will provide a progress report for students if/when we return this spring, followed by a semester grade in June. There are still many unanswered questions that have to come from the state and federal levels, so we kindly ask for your patience.

Staff Video

If you haven't already done so, please check out a short video the staff of Shumate put together to remind students how much they're missed.

<https://youtu.be/o3Cejim99Gw>

Shumate Donates Needed Supplies

We want to take a moment to spotlight our outstanding families and staff. Every year teachers across the country and right here at Shumate put out “teacher wish lists”, through which they request donations of disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizer and many other supplies that are used within the classroom. The families of Shumate have been outstanding with these donations, and we simply can’t thank you enough! This year is obviously very different than others, and resulted in many supplies remaining unused on teacher shelves. Realizing that people in our community desperately need these items, SMS teachers and staff rallied together (virtually) to donate over 60 packages of disinfectant wipes, more than 50 containers of hand sanitizer, and 300 nitrile gloves that will be sent to first responders in the Gibraltar area. The staff also donated about 150 goggles that will be sent to Beaumont Hospital to help protect our local emergency medical personnel. I know we say it a lot, but we’re so proud to be Seahawks!

Google Classroom

Please remind your child to check Google Classroom daily. Teachers are posting work for the week on Mondays, and updating their online classroom throughout the week. We’re seeing some really outstanding virtual learning sessions taking place online. Teachers are uploading videos of instruction, and even meeting with students through Google Classroom and Zoom Meetings. Please encourage your child to walk you through Google Classroom so you’ll have a better understanding of the review and enrichment activities.

Take Care - Stay Safe - Stay Healthy,

Eric Cassie & Dave Anderson