

Dear Westview Parents:

At the time of writing this letter we have been told that students will be away from school for a three-week period starting next week, March 23<sup>rd</sup> and are expected to return to school on April 13<sup>th</sup>. During this time, teachers will send digital work home for students to do and to bring back once they return to school. Mrs. Card, our librarian, has allowed students to check out extra books to read during the break and is compiling a list of educational links that you and your child can access while not in school.

Teachers may send some supplemental work for students to do while away to ensure that they maintain the gains they have made so far this year. **Please refer to the email this letter was attached to for pick up instruction.**

As a staff, we have decided to use these next few weeks to engage our students in a school-wide inquiry task. All of our students will be working on the same task; however, the questions and prompts sent by their classroom teachers will be age, curriculum and grade level-appropriate. The purpose of this inquiry project is to engage the students in rich curriculum-based learning that is both creative and fun.

These activities should take your children about 30-45 minutes per day but could take much longer if they are enjoying it. The only materials your students will need for this project should be items you already have in your home: paper, colored pencils or crayons, scissors, etc.

As a parent, feel free to work and learn with your child on these activities. Our hope is that when we are all back, students can bring in their inquiry tasks to school and we can celebrate the learning they did while away. There is no need to send work back during our time away – all work can be brought back when your student returns.

The task that we will be asking the students to engage with is as follows:

**Congratulations, Westview student! You have inherited an island from a long-lost relative. This is a very special island; it is unlike anything the world has ever seen. Your job over the next two weeks will be to explore the island and send back reports for all of your classmates. Every day your teacher will send you new tasks or questions about the island that you need to answer. You will have to use your imagination and creativity. Good luck! We can't wait to hear all about your adventure!**

Teachers will begin sending out the first questions and prompts on Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

All the best

Andrew Hirst