



BELL Academy

Bayside Enrichment & Long-Distance Learning Academy – MS 294

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David Abbott
Principal

www.thebellacademy.com

Jaclyn Rajwan
Assistant Principal

September 11, 2020

Dear BELL Families,

We continue to hope that you and your families are safe and well. I would like to officially welcome you all to the 2020-21 school year! To say that this is a unique start to a school year, is an understatement. As I begin my 25th year in education, I am once again reminded that the hard work and sleepless nights are soon rewarded by having the privilege of welcoming your children to our school. Whether you are a new 6th grader, or a returning 7th or 8th grader, you are part of one big BELL family!

Over the past few days, your teachers and BELL staff members have been working tirelessly to prepare for this upcoming year. Despite the challenges they, too, are facing, they have been focused on creating a safe and nurturing learning environment, whether you are engaging in remote learning, or in-person blended learning. As challenging as these times may be, knowing that we will soon be connecting and supporting one another, makes it all worthwhile.

As a reminder, ALL students will be engaged in remote learning on September 16th, 17th, and 18th. Students will access their on-line sessions through links on the **Remote Learning** page of our school's website: www.thebellacademy.com. You will soon be receiving an email with a letter indicating your child's official class. Your child should logon to their Google Classroom sessions according to their official class code. The letter that you will soon receive with your child's class will also specify which entrance and exit your child will use on in-person learning days.



SEPTEMBER 17, 2020 ← Meeting Date

We are so excited to meet you and begin our 2020-2021 school year together!
Please see below for log-in information for today's meetings.

6TH GRADE ← Current Grade

Who: A61, A62, A63 ← Class Code
When: 9:00 am ← Meeting Time
Where: Google Meets ← Meet Link

We are also excited to have you “meet” your child’s teachers. We will be hosting Virtual Parent Orientations next week according to the following schedule via Google Meets:

- 6th Grade Parents: Wednesday, September 16th at 8 a.m. [6th Grade Parent Orientation](#)
- 7th Grade Parents: Thursday, September 17th at 8 a.m. [7th Grade Parent Orientation](#)
- 8th Grade Parents: Friday, September 18th at 8 a.m. [8th Grade Parent Orientation](#)

The meeting links are noted above, and are also available on the Remote Learning page of our school’s website. Meetings will be recorded and available on our school’s website if you are unable to participate in the live session.

Please remember that ongoing communication is extremely important at this time. Any changes to your email address or telephone number should be communicated to our Parent Coordinator, Lori Belcastro at LBelcastro@schools.nyc.gov or our School Secretary, Susan Yagerman at SYagerman@schools.nyc.gov

It is fitting that I share this letter with you on September 11. Each year, we hold a unity celebration in our school’s yard to commemorate and remember the heroes who tragically lost their lives on September 11, 2001. Our current circumstances obviously prevent us from holding such a mass in-person gathering. During the ceremony, I often talk of the lessons we’ve learned through the tragic events of 9/11. Although we felt the heartbreak and pain of falling down, we also recall the strength and resiliency that lifted us back up- stronger, more grateful, and with the reassurance that there is much we can accomplish when working together. I am honored to be working together with each and every one of you. Here’s to a great school year. Together, we are BELL Strong! Please click on our [Welcome To The 2020-21 School Year](#) video to view a brief message from the BELL Family. Please share with your children!

Sincerely,
David Abbott, Principal