

Good Sunday evening Bucks! Can't believe it's the last week in April and what a strange April it has been! If you miss some of this message or need to see it in writing be sure to go to our website as it has been posted each week since distance learning. We also push it out in a bulleted format on our facebook page. We continue to encourage you to engage in the Distance Learning model and have your child do as much as they can. The student work load has been adjusted and we ask that Deer Park finishes strong! If there are barriers getting in the way of your child's engagement then reach out to your classroom teacher who will advise you how to get help. We still have counselors working hard as well as our school social worker will help with finding resources. If technology is a barrier then our staff is here to help. Each week we are monitoring how engaged your child is and learning is still an expectation from the State and the district. As we do each year, we will have discussions around retaining students based on the entire year, not just this last quarter. We take into consideration high amounts of absences as this is missed instruction, academic levels that are well below grade level, and previous retentions. If your child was already struggling prior to 4<sup>th</sup> quarter then those discussions will still occur. Teachers are working hard to provide flexible zoom times, recording zooms to push out to students who can't attend live sessions, and even having 1 on 1 zooms with students to provide interventions and catch students up. Our goal is never to retain students, but there are situations where it's necessary as it's unfair to the child to keep pushing them on to the next grade level where the struggle becomes harder and harder. We have 3 dates scheduled for families to pick up personal items and return devices. We ask that when you come to the campus that you either use your car tag OR you can make a paper to place on your dash that says student name and teacher last name. That will help us tremendously as we try to expedite 500 families picking up items. On May 26<sup>th</sup> any family that DID NOT check out a device can come to the school to pick up personal items to include yearbooks, if you ordered one. Again, this day is only for families **without** school devices. It will be a drive thru version with all families staying in your cars. Teachers sent invites out through their remind, bloomz, or in emails. So, be sure to check your pick up time and location as it does change depending on grade level. We apologize, but to keep everyone safe we are only doing one grade level at a time as I can only have minimal staff members involved. If you have children in multiple grades you will need to come back during those times as running to grab additional bags will only cause a hold up of the loop. On May 27<sup>th</sup> all 5<sup>th</sup> grade families are invited to come through the car loop from 9 to 11 am, our team is working to put together parting surprises for middle school bound 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Be on the look-out for something to arrive in your yard shortly! We also have a special 5<sup>th</sup> grade bag that will be handed out on the 27<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 11 in the car loop. We would love to have our 5<sup>th</sup> graders come through in their cars and we invite families to decorate your car for all to see in the loop. We will capture the moment for our social media sites as well. Your bag will have promotion certificates and purchased yearbooks and at that time we ask that you bring back school devices to be returned. Again, May 27<sup>th</sup> is only for our 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Finally, on May 28<sup>th</sup> it's any remaining students in Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade that DID check out a school device. Again, if you have a school device and are in Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade then your day to return your device is May 28<sup>th</sup> in the car loop anytime from 9 to 11 am. At that time, you will also receive any personal items as well as purchased yearbooks. This week's tech tip is just to restart the device each week and if you continue to have problems sometimes the quick fix is to clear the browser. If you need help doing this our tech team Ms. Witowski and Mrs. Malave are great at assisting. You can find their numbers right on our Deer Park website so you can call them directly; preferably Monday through Friday. Thank you again for all your support, kindness, patience, and collaboration during this very trying time in our History. Have a wonderful week Deer Park Community!