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"Technology is just a tool. In terms of getting the kids working together and motivating them, the teacher is the most important." ~ Bill Gates

Our teachers are currently involved in professional learning to support creative ways for our students to show what they know. This week, I was able to learn about how to create a podcast and to use Padlet (a virtual bulletin board) and Goformative, a tool for teachers to observe student work in the moment and correct misconceptions. We are definitely learning important skills that will only increase our capacity to engage and support students when we are back together. Thank you to families who provided us with feedback- please take a moment to complete this brief questionnaire about conferences- [HERE](#).

Thank you's and Recognition:

- We had great participation in SLCs; thank you for taking the time to meet with your child's Advisor!
- Thank you for participating in our principal coffee this week. Please see the topics below:
 - Recording and posting lessons- checking on the feasibility of this
 - Matriculation- including hearing and eye tests. Admission has sent the information
 - PreAP- will parents be notified? Yes- see information below. Our communication system has slowed from being in the virtual environment. At this time, students are checking individually and the information will be posted in Google Classroom. If parents would like immediate information, have them contact ashley.barker@cng.edu

From English Department:

Dear CNG Middle School Families,

We hope that this email finds you all doing well during this time.

Today we wanted to take a moment to recognize how much our students' reading lives have changed with this shift to distance learning. Normally we are surrounded by books in our classrooms and have access to our outstanding libraries and our amazing librarians as in person resources, not to mention our classmates and teachers who encourage and recommend books to us. Now we have been thrust into this new normal of distance learning where our resources have all become remote, even the human ones. Our students are proving themselves to be adaptable, engaged, problem solvers, and we want to commend them for their flexibility and engagement!

A new challenge some of us might be facing is accessing texts. To that end, our head librarian Lisa Habegger has put together [this](#) outstanding resource that has links to many digital resources that organizations have made free for students during this time. It is really amazing how many digital reading resources are out there for us! Of course students continue to be more than welcome to purchase books through ebook platforms, but we wanted to share these no-cost-to-you resources that Ms. Habegger curated on our library website for all students.

Hopefully this will be helpful in keeping us all happily reading during this era of distance learning! Reading is such a great place for us all to connect, escape, and process during this challenging time.

Happy reading!

This week:

Tuesday:

6th Grade- Chat and Chill- For our students- a time to visit with the counselor and one another

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96421666158?pwd=UVkwUUJveFRycS9saUxiR2UwaHdYdz09>

Meeting ID: 964 2166 6158

Password: 097337

Thursday:

School-wide Assembly- Information Below

We will be holding a MS school assembly. Students must be joining this event at 9:30 through webex. See the link for the assembly :

<https://mycng.webex.com/mycng/j.php?MTID=mba89c4991885be797367870f68038a3d>

Friday- Holiday- No School

Information/Reminders:

- PreAp information - our apologies in our communication (or lack of it). We have struggled to find an accurate, confidential and efficient means to communicate this important information. Please continue to email ashley.barker@cng.edu for specific scheduling information. Please take a moment to see the following instructions in this [PDF document](#) in order to confirm your child's Pre-AP recommendations. Please do not contact your child's teacher or the office- as all recommendations went to the Pre-AP committee.
- [Parent Portal Link-](#) Thank you for all who are visiting our new parent portal. This is updated weekly on Friday and has an abbreviated version of what is happening each week along with our weekly schedule

Secondary Digital Learning Schedule-

- Class 10AM-12PM, LUNCH, 1PM-3PM
- Opportunity Day- Monday and Thursday 3PM-4P
- Office Hours- Wednesday and Friday 3-4
- Staff Meeting Days Tuesdays 3-4

Absences: If your child misses any part of distance learning due to illness or connectivity issues, please have them contact the teacher as soon as possible and attend the next Opportunity Day. Also, Contact ms_dismissal@cng.edu for absences.

- Absence coming up? Please, complete our fillable form for prearrangement (2 days in advance). [Pre Arranged Absence Form](#)

Student work Resubmissions: In order for students to resubmit an assignment, test or other classwork, they must complete the [Student Resubmission Form](#)

Resources Available:

[MS Staff Emails/Contacts](#)

[Home/School Communication chart](#)

Tech Resources:

<http://bit.ly/cngtechsmart>- this is for timely CNG tech support

[Google Classroom \(English\)](#)

[Google Meet \(English\)](#)

[CommonSense.org](#), which is considered to be an industry-standard in the technology support to parents.

[Acceptable Use Policy \(AUP\)](#).

From our Service Department- How can you help?

There is still ways to help- see information to support The Fundacion [HERE](#)

Looking Ahead:

- ❖ May 5th- Parent Meeting re: 5th grade to 6th Grade Transition
- ❖ May 8th Parent Meeting re: 8th grade to 9th Grade Transition 8:30AM
- ❖ "3, 2, 1, Blast Off" into high school in May. 8th grade Advisory- **May 13, 20, and 27 9:15-9:45AM**
- ❖ May 19th- Principal Coffee 7:15AM-
<https://mycng.webex.com/meet/ashley.barker>
- ❖ May 25- Dia de la Ascensión- No School
- ❖ June 4th- proposed Move Up activities 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th grade. More information to come
- ❖ June 8- Student Course Selections, supply list and Advisor information provided to students
- ❖ June 12- 8th Grade Move Up Ceremony- Student last day- early dismissal
- ❖ August 10th- 6th grade orientation. Students will come on campus early for a ½ day