



THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL  
KRISTIN BERNIER, PRINCIPAL  
1 THOMAS AVENUE  
THOMASTON, CT 06787  
TELEPHONE 860-283-3036

February 25, 2021

Dear Thomaston Center School Families,

It is hard to believe we are approaching the end of February as we begin to plan some spring events. We at Thomaston Center School are committed to continuous improvement and we are engaged in a number of efforts to best support our students. With this in mind, I would like to share important changes that will go into effect beginning Monday, March 1, 2020.

As many of you heard, our distance learning students will be logging into the in-person classes. In grade 4, distance learning students will be assigned to either Ms. McAtee's or Mr. Dwan's homeroom and follow that class's daily schedules. In grade 5, distance learner students will follow Mr. McMahon's homeroom daily schedule. In grade 6, distance learners will follow Ms. Miller's homeroom schedule. The in-person teacher will take the place of the current distance learning teacher. Grade level teachers, including special areas teachers will be contacting distance learners to share the Google Meet link for the classroom. To help support with this transition, Ms. Saramanidis will be co-teaching in grade 4, Ms. Fuller will co-teaching in grade 5, and Ms. Protzmann will be co-teaching in grade 6 during a two-week transition period. The particular schedule for distance learners will be emailed home under a separate email.

In addition to changes in our distance learning schedules, we are also changing the virtual learning Wednesday schedule that is used for both Wednesdays and inclement weather days. **At Thomaston Center School, our virtual learning day will be from 8:05-12:25. All classes, including specials, will be synchronous. Students may also receive additional services, such as special education services, school counseling, intervention services, band lessons, or additional classroom support from 12:25 until 3:00 on these virtual learning days. Students may also be assigned independent work, such as myPath reading/math or projects to be completed after the 12:25 dismissal time.** Regardless of whether your child is full time remote, or an in-person learner, we will follow the following schedule on Wednesdays and when inclement weather warrants such a change:

#### Grade 4

8:05-8:20	Homeroom
8:21-9:25	Period 2
9:25-10:07	Specials
10:09-11:14	Period 3
11:14-11:25	Snack/ Break
11:25-12:25	Period 1

#### Grade 5

8:05-8:20	Homeroom
8:21-9:25	Period 2
9:25-9:35	Snack/ Break
9:37-10:41	Period 3
10:43-11:23	Specials
11:25-12:25	Period 1

#### Grade 6

8:05-8:20	Homeroom
8:21-9:01	Specials
9:03-10:08	Period 2
10:10-11:15	Period 3
11:15-11:25	Snack/ Break
11:25-12:25	Period 1

On another exciting note, this morning the entire fifth grade class is participating in the Elementary Leadership Conference with the CT Association of Schools. Typically, schools are only able to send a few students to this program, but due to the virtual nature of the event, we were afforded the opportunity to take an entire grade level! This morning fifth graders will be engaged in mindfulness activities and discuss various topics on honing leadership skills. We are fortunate to present this opportunity to our students in this manner this year.

Next week, all of our students will participate in our annual Read Across America event. This national event is held every year to commemorate Dr. Suess's birthday and to promote the love of reading. Therefore, we will be hosting a Spirit Week next week. Please click on the link for more information: [\[Link\]](#) In addition, students will be engaged in fun Read Across America activities throughout the week.

I am thrilled to announce Skylar Wain and Matthew Johnson will be recognized for their outstanding work in visual and performing arts at the annual Connecticut Association of Schools Elementary Level Celebration of the Arts. Skylar was selected for her work in art class and Matthew was selected for his performance in band class. They will attend a virtual celebration on March 30, 2021. We are so proud of both students and congratulate them on their efforts!

I would like to extend my gratitude to the families who are dropping off and picking up students at Center School in the mornings and afternoons. Our arrival/dismissal process has been going very well and there has been improved safety in this area. As a reminder, traffic is one lane only on Thomas Avenue and the street is designated as a "right turn only" road. Students may be dropped off on the sidewalk closest to the school and proceed to the auditorium stairs. Appreciation also goes out to our arrival and dismissal staff for their efforts in providing an efficient, effective, and safe procedure!

Please remind your student to charge their chrome books daily as part of your child's evening homework routine. In addition to bringing a charged chrome book to school, students should bring ear buds/headphones, and a water bottle. New ear buds were distributed to every child earlier this year, but students may use their own headphones/ear buds as long as they are compatible with our Chrome Books. Should your child need technical assistance with the chrome book, please email the IT team at [infotech@thomastonschools.org](mailto:infotech@thomastonschools.org). This is the fastest, most efficient way to receive support.

Although the weather is predicted to be warmer soon, students need to dress appropriately for the weather as we will continue to have outdoor recess and outdoor mask breaks as the weather permits.

As always, we are grateful for your continued support and partnership in your child's education. Most importantly, thank you for your continued flexibility during these uncertain times. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Kristin Bernier  
Principal  
Thomaston Center School