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March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is our firm belief that nothing is more important right now than the health and welfare of all of us during this difficult and uncertain time. We are amidst something none of us have experienced, or expected to experience in our lifetime. As educators, we aim to ensure you feel comfortable and confident that your child is continuing to grow academically during this time. However, we also do not want to add any additional anxiety or concerns regarding the necessity to complete a certain amount of work while we are unable to attend school.

It is our recommendation that your child read as much as possible. Accelerated Reader Tests can be taken at home if you have internet access. Directions are as follows: Go to the school website ([lfcsd.org](http://lfcsd.org)), hover over library, hover over Benton Hall Academy, left click on teacher resources, scroll down to the 5th option (Accelerated Reader), sign in (students have been doing this all year, and should know their sign in information). Students can also find the Typing Quest tab under "library" and "cool web tools" on the school website, and can work on lessons found in this program. This is another program your child is familiar with using. Google books offers a wide variety of free books if you do not have any at home. Many companies such as Scholastic and Study Island are offering a minimum of one free month of usage. These are reputable companies your child would benefit from utilizing.

We have worked extensively on identifying the main idea of texts. Your child can read any text, and write a main idea/gist statement focusing on the who (who are the main characters), what (what are they doing or trying to do/what is their problem), when (when is the story taking place - day/night/time period), where (where is the setting), why (why are the main characters doing what they are doing), and how (how did it end/how did the problem get solved). Another beneficial activity would be to have your child keep a daily journal. They can do this in Google Docs, or on paper. Your child can write about his or her feelings, experiences, daily activities, concerns etc. during this time.

Students can also work on the accompanying math packet. It includes sets of practice problems which align with important math concepts your child has worked on so far this year. Please encourage your child to do the best he or she can with this content. Any amount of time your child spends on continuing and developing mathematical fluency and skills will be beneficial. In addition, your child has an account on the website [www.ixl.com](http://www.ixl.com). Our students are familiar with this site, and should know their login information. Any of the skills

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that are labeled with a star are concepts that have been covered so far this school year. We have also included science packets which cover many fourth grade topics.

If you have questions or concerns, or feel you are struggling and need additional help or resources, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

**The Fourth Grade Team**

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