## NORWALK PUBLIC SCHOOLS GIFTED AND TALENTED

# KENDALL ELEMENTARY GIFTED & TALENTED: KINDNESS



For our Norwalk students, our KES GT program will plan interactive, engaging, enriching activities and programming to promote the diverse and distinct talents exhibits by our student population. With student input, our program will provide appropriately challenging learning opportunities to allow student opportunities to interact with each other in order to develop connections and bonds. We look forward to meeting and working in collaboration with parents and stakeholders to share relevant information, concise facts, informed data, and current policies.

Mission: We are committed to nurturing the whole child's distinct and diverse strengths, talents, and passions in order to develop student-driven critical thinking, authentic learning, individual responsibility, and global citizenship.

Vision:We believe gifts and talents are present in all children. Through the cultivation of enjoyment, engagement, and enthusiasm for learning, we will nurture students' unique social-emotional needs and creative thinking practices. As a result, students will contribute to their school, community, and society as constructive and innovative global citizens.





"Imagine what our neighborhoods would be like if each of us offered, as a matter of course, just one kind word to another person."

- Mister Rogers

"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible."

-Dalai Lama

#### **2020 RECENT EVENTS**

For everyone: Renzulli Learning access link KES GT Inventors Newsletter

On the Gifted and Talented Learning Portal, all district GT teachers have shared our contact information and Google classroom sites.

Our K- Second Google Classroom is: https://classroom.google.com/u/1/c/NzI0NTcwMzQ3NTNa Our Third - Fifth Google Classroom is: https://classroom.google.com/u/0/c/NzI0NTE0MTE1OTRa

KES Schoolwide Enrichment Newsletter
Elementary Gifted and Talented Distance
Learning Portal of the Norwalk Public Schools
https://tinyurl.com/dlnpsgt
KES GT Creativity Newsletter
KES GT Innovation Newsletter

# 4 Ways to Be Kind to Your Friends and Family During Coronavirus

BE GOOFY. LISTEN TO MUSIC - LOUD. SING ALONG - IN FUNNY VOICES. HAVE A DANCE PARTY - IN COSTUMES. LAUGH AND THEN LAUGH SOME MORE. THEN FACETIME SOME BEST FRIENDS AND GET THEM TO JOIN IN VIRTUALLY.

EAT AND PLAY WELL. OPEN THE OLD COOKBOOKS THAT JUST SIT ON YOUR SHELF. COOK A CREATIVE MEAL WITH THE ENTIRE FAMILY. PLAY THE BOARD GAMES THAT YOU ALWAYS WANT TO PLAY, BUT YOU NEVER REALLY PLAY.

RECONNECT. WRITE FRIENDS THAT YOU HAVEN'T HEARD FROM IN A LONG TIME. DETAIL WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN YOUR LIFE AND ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON WITH THEM.

PICK UP THE PHONE. CALL GRANDMA, YOUR FAVORITE AUNT, YOUR BEST FRIEND. USE FACETIME TO SEE THE FACE OF SOMEONE YOU LOVE OR AT LEAST JUST CALL THEM TO HEAR THEIR VOICE. WE ARE GOING TO NEED TO DO BETTER THAN MERELY TEXTING RIGHT NOW.

#### **Kindness**

Demonstrate strength of heart through actions or speech intended to help others

The research on mindfulness is becoming more and more clear—mindfulness, or noticing the present with kindness and curiosity— is effective in creating a sense of peace and calm.

Whether you have a formal mindfulness practice or an informal practice, there remains a focus on what is happening in the here-and-now.

Delight, give attention, heighten awareness and slow the pace of life.



#### **How do I encourage kindness?**

Model it: When being helpful to others, talk about why you're doing it.

Celebrate it: When you notice kind behavior, try to make clear why it's so generous.

**Enable it:** Find time to demonstrate moving empathy to compassion.

Compassion is the willingness to shift towards action in relationship to kindness or thoughtfulness towards others.

#### Kindness Pulse Check for Spring

Think about yourself.

How many of these things are true?

- I pay attention to what other people want or need to try to figure out how I can help.
- I go out of my way to do favors for others, speak up to support them, share what I have, or simply listen when they need a friend.
- I consciously make small sacrifices to be kind to others, like taking a few minutes to do an extra chore or listening to a story even if I'm not in the mood for it.
- I try to think about how much my actions mean to others instead of how much of a burden they are for me.

find more info at: https://characterlab.org/playbooks/kindness/

#### **KES Gifted & Talented Portal**

Norwalk Public Schools created a distance learning portal which includes choice boards, booklists, and other links that will be helpful if students are seeking additional challenges. Choice boards will be added every two weeks.

https://sites.google.com/view/npsgiftedandtalented/home

Our K- Second Google Classroom

is: https://classroom.google.com/u/1/c/NzI0NTcwMzQ3NTNa

Our Third - Fifth Google Classroom

is: https://classroom.google.com/u/0/c/NzI0NTE0MTE1OTRa

### **Kindness Photos**

KES GT would like to share these images to express the kindness in learning opportunities offered because GT exists and thrives in our district.











