**Stone Middle School**

**PROUD to be an SMS TOMCAT**

532 East Central Avenue Wiggins, Mississippi 39577

Telephone: (601) 928-4876 Fax: (601) 928-6440

Lance Bolen, Principal Colleen Hickman, Assistant Principal Tiffany Farmer, Assistant Principal Rose Pouriraji, School Counselor

**Virtual Learner Beginning of the Year Newsletter**

**Platform/Instruction**

* Students will access their virtual classroom through Google Classroom.
  + Google Classroom can be accessed via the “Students” tab on stoneschools.org
  + Students must have their Google login credentials to access their virtual classroom.
    - Google login credentials will be sent via School Status by Thursday, August 13.
  + Each subject/class period will have an assigned Google Classroom. This is where instructional videos, daily assignments, tests, etc. will be posted.
  + Assignments must be submitted by the posted deadline. Any late submissions will have five points deducted per day after deadline.
  + Regular classroom assessments (NOT DIAGNOSTIC TESTING) can be taken virtually but must be taken at the assigned time so that the teacher can monitor via Google Meets.
    - Students will be notified in advance of the date/time for classroom assessments so that arrangements can be made.
    - Instructions for logging into Google Meets will be provided by the classroom teacher through announcements on Google Classroom.
    - If students do not sign on for the scheduled virtual proctored assessment, they will be required to take the make-up assessment in person at the school.
  + To join a Google Classroom, accept the invitation your teacher sends via your school email.
    - All students should receive invitations from their teachers by the end of the day, Friday, August 14.

**Diagnostic Testing**

* Students will be required to take their diagnostic assessments in person at the school. Please be on time as these are proctored assessments.
* Students will be temperature checked before entering the school. This will be done at the virtual student drive-through at the front of the school beginning at ***7:45am.***
* Parents (or someone on the student’s check out list) must check the student ***in*** at the virtual student drive-through location at the front of the school.
* Parents (or someone on the student’s check out list) must also check the student ***out*** at the virtual student drive-through location. ***Please bring a picture ID!***
* ***Students must wear school uniforms and a mask when at the school.***
* Students will pick up any instructional materials that are supplied by the school on their first day of diagnostic testing.
* See the schedule below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **6th Grade** | **7th Grade** | **8th Grade** |
| Thursday, August 20  *iReady ELA* | Wednesday, August 19  *iReady ELA* | Tuesday, August 18  *iReady ELA* |
| Tuesday, August 25  *iReady Math* | Monday, August 24  *iReady Math* | Friday, August 21  *iReady Math* |
| Friday, August 28  *ELS ELA* | Thursday, August 27  *ELS ELA* | Wednesday, August 26  *ELS ELA* |
| Wednesday, September 2  *ELS Math* | Tuesday, September 1  *ELS Math* | Monday, August 31  *ELS Math* |
|  |  | Thursday, September 3  *ELS Science* |

**\*\*Testing will be from 8:00am - 10:40am on the assigned dates listed above. Check in will begin at 7:45am each morning at the virtual student drive-through location.**

**Attendance**

* Attendance will be taken in each period’s Google Classroom. This means that students will be considered present for the class period as long as they login by 11:59 pm that day.
* Excuses for absences must be emailed to [mebreland@stoneschools.org](mailto:mebreland@stoneschools.org). Please see student handbook guidelines for time frames on turning in excused absences.
* For make up work guidelines, please see the student handbook.
* It is suggested that students follow their class schedules but not required. (See bell schedule below.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Period** | **Grade 6** | **Grades 7&8** |
| 1 | 7:53 - 8:47 | 7:53 - 8:47 |
| 2 | 8:50 - 9:44 | 8:50 - 9:44 |
| 3 | 9:47 - 10:41 | 9:47 - 10:41 |
| 4 | 10:44 - 12:02 (lunch) | 10:44 - 11:38 |
| 5 | 12:05 - 12:59 | 11:41 - 12:59 (Lunch) |
| 6 | 1:02 - 1:56 | 1:02 - 1:56 |
| 7 | 1:59 - 2:53 | 1:59 - 2:53 |

**Communication**

* Teachers will post their virtual classroom expectations to their Google Classroom.
* If you have further questions, please contact the teacher through Google Classroom, email or School Status.

**\*\*Please be aware that this situation is fluid, and all plans are subject to change.**

**A Google Classroom tutorial video link has been added to the Virtual Learning link on the SMS website (**[**https://www.stoneschools.org/sms/index**](https://www.stoneschools.org/sms/index)**).**