



WILLIAM W. NILES MIDDLE SCHOOL 118
Academy of Excellence, Pace Academy, & Spectrum Academy
577 East 179th Street, Bronx, New York
(718) 584-2330
Website: www.MS118.info Email: 10X118@schools.nyc.gov

November 24, 2020

Dear MS 118 families,

Thank you for welcoming us into your homes each day for remote learning. While we are in remote learning, all students will continue to follow their daily school schedule. All Group A and Group B students will meet live with their teachers each day. Students should attend classes in uniform with their cameras on. Research states that students in distance learning are more engaged when their cameras are on. We are actively working to ensure the academic and social emotional success of every MS 118 student.

This morning, all MS 118 students (Groups A, B, and D) will participate in an assessment to identify their current reading level. The assessment will begin during 2nd period and will end at the end of 3rd period. Students who need additional time will continue the assessment during 4th period. It is important that students complete the assessment accurately. The results of these assessments are used to advance or accelerate students and in other cases to identify areas where additional support is needed.

I would like to thank every family for supporting our COVID-19 safety protocols. These protocols (temperature checks, staying home when students do not feel well, social distancing, and wearing masks) are helping to maintain a safe learning environment for all. When we return to the building, it is important that we maintain these practices. To date, there has been only one positive case of COVID-19 in our school building. During random COVID testing, a member of our school community tested positive for the virus. On November 19th, we notified all individuals who could have potentially come in contact with this person. Those individuals began quarantine on November 19th and will continue through December 2nd. I encourage all members (students and staff) of our school community to take a COVID-19 test before we return to the building for blended instruction.

MS 118 Parent Association Elections

Our Parent Association elections for the 2020 - 21 school year will be held on Friday, December 4th at 10 am. We will post a meeting link on our school website, www.MS118.info, the morning of December 4th. This meeting will be held virtually on Zoom. We understand that there were problems accessing our previous meeting. Those technical issues have been resolved and everyone should be able to access the December 4th meeting to participate in our Elections for this school year.

Teacher Office Hours

All MS 118 teachers are available from 2:00 - 2:20 pm, Monday through Friday, to meet virtually with students and families. Feel free to reach out to your student's teacher(s) during this time. Students may also reach out for additional support with assignments or to ask questions about the day's lesson.

End of First Marking Period

The end of our first marking period is this Wednesday, November 25th. **Students have until December 1st to make up missing assignments without penalty.** Students should reach out during teacher office hours, Monday - Friday, 2:00 - 2:20 pm, to discuss assignments that are missing. Feel free to reach out to your

Attendance - Mr. Cooper, 917-826-4222, 10X118@schools.nyc.gov

or

Ms. DeLa Rosa (espanol), 646-573-8078, 10X118@schools.nyc.gov

Pace Academy

Assistant Principal: Ms. Leah Dyer, ldyer@schools.nyc.gov

Attendance: Ms. Castillo (bilingual), 718-687-2392, 10X118@schools.nyc.gov

Spectrum Academy

Assistant Principal: Ms. Courtney Ware, cwares@schools.nyc.gov

Attendance: Ms. S. Jackson (bilingual), 646-708-6948, 10X118@schools.nyc.gov

Attendance (bilingual) - Ms. Kelva Baez, kbaez2@schools.nyc.gov

Parent Coordinator: Mr. Steven Cooper, 917-826-4222, scooper12@schools.nyc.gov

Special Education: Ms. Anetty Maria (bilingual), 917-603-2896, amaria3@schools.nyc.gov

Families in Temporary Housing: Mr. Frank Rivera (bilingual), 646-409-2066, frivera12@schools.nyc.gov

Google Classroom

The MS118 Google Classroom is set up to allow you access for viewing your student's classroom activity. You are able to receive email summaries about your student's activity in all of their MS118 classes. The summary will provide you with a list of upcoming work, class activities, and missing assignments. If you have not received a Google Classroom invitation from us, please send an email to 10X118@schools.nyc.gov and we will send out an invitation. Click this [link](#) to learn more about email summaries from Google Classroom.

Student Attendance

We are continuously working to improve our new systems for accurately capturing student attendance. On any given day we are working to document attendance for our three different groups of students, blended in-school, blended remote, and full remote. Please contact the school before 10:00 AM, by phone (718) 584-2330 or email 10X118@schools.nyc.gov, to report your child's absence from school. We record daily attendance for students who are learning remotely. It is important to communicate absences for students who are in a group that may not be in the building.

Communication

We are actively using Blackboard Messenger to communicate with all of our MS 118 families. Blackboard Messenger will make an automated phone call as well as a text message to the phone number(s) that we have on file. The family letter will continue to go out regularly and can be found on our school website, www.MS118.info.

School Uniforms

This is a reminder to all that we are a uniform school. Students are required to wear their school uniform daily. In the event you are not able to purchase a uniform, students may wear a black polo shirt and khaki pants. The uniform policy for MS 118 students is a MS 118 black polo shirt and khaki pants or skirt. Students are not permitted to wear hooded sweatshirts, jeans, or any type of denim.

Thank you for choosing MS 118. Regardless of the challenges we may face as a community over the course of this school year, our staff is committed to ensuring that all students at MS 118 have are engaged in meaningful learning experiences. As always, If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at 10X118@schools.nyc.gov (Type Your Child's Name in the Subject Line) This email address is monitored throughout the school day.

Best,

Gary

MS 118 School Calendar

November 2020, December 2020, and January 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<i>Group D - families who opt for full remote learning are remote every day Monday - Friday</i>				

November 23	November 24	November 25	November 26	November 27
End of First Marking Period				
Group A Group B Remote	Group A Group B Remote	Group A Group B Remote	Thanksgiving Break Schools Closed	Thanksgiving Break Schools Closed

November 30	December 1	December 2	December 3	December 4
Group A Group B Remote	Group A Group B Remote	Group A Group B Remote	Group A Group B Remote	Group A Group B Remote
December 7	December 8	December 9	December 10	December 11
Group B School	Group A School	Group B School	Group A School	Group B School
Group A Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote
December 14	December 15	December 16	December 17	December 18
Group A School	Group A School	Group B School	Group A School	Group B School
Group B Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote
December 21	December 22	December 23	December 24	December 25
Group B School	Group A School	Group B School	Winter Recess Schools Closed	
Group A Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote		
December 28	December 29	December 30	December 31	January 1

Group A School	Group A School	Group B School	Group A School	Group B School
Group B Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote
January 18	January 19	January 20	January 21	January 22
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Schools Closed	Group A School	Group B School	Group A School	Group B School
	Group B Remote	Group A Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote
January 25	January 26	January 27	January 28	January 29
End of Second Marking Period / End of First Semester				
Group A School	Group A School	Group B School	Group A School	Group B School
Group B Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote
February 1	February 2	February 3	February 4	February 5
Group B School	Group A School	Group B School	Group A School	Group B School
Group A Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote	Group B Remote	Group A Remote



@118Bronx: The official MS 118 Instagram account. Follow us on Instagram.