



January 22, 2021

Distance Learning Parent Newsletter, Issue 16

Multilingual Support Division
California Department of Education

Opening Letter

DEAR PARENTS,

The 16th Edition of the Distance Learning Parent Newsletter brings us to the beginning of the new year. We hope you and your family are well.

This edition of the newsletter provides more resources for parents and families including why use of the home language is a good thing, opportunity to participate in a webinar, and new information on CDE Free Streaming Video Subscription Service.

Remember, if you feel you need support to access and maintain communication with your child's teacher, please contact your school as soon as possible.

New Year 2021

Helping Young English Learners at Home: Simple and Fun Activities to Strengthen Language Development

Presented by REL West, this webinar is designed for district and school staff working with English learner students in grades K–5 and their families. Activity sheets are available in English and Spanish for parents and caregivers to use with their children at home.

https://wested.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_G_L7wiKeRLq-dpYrwLgC4Q

Informational Resources Included Every Week

School Lunch Information: CA Meals for Kids

Parents can still pick up school lunches during COVID-19 related school closures. Use the "CA Meals for Kids" mobile app to find meals or you can contact your school district directly for more information. Some districts now offer home delivery for school lunches. Parents should contact their child's school to see if the school has opted into this optional program.

CDE News Release: CA Meals for Kids App Update at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/497627>

Getting Internet Access

If you do not have access to the internet at home, there are several companies offering service to families. Contact the companies listed on the link below on the CDE web page below to discuss available plans.

Getting Internet Access: Available Plans at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/498321>

Home Learning Resources

Below are free recommended resources that you can use with your children at home or they can use on their own.

Tips for Parents

Reading Tips for Parents (Multiple Languages)

Reading and a love for reading begin at home. One-page parent tips offer easy ways for parents to help kids become successful readers.

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-tips-parents-multiple-languages#languages>

But What if I Don't Know English? (Available in Spanish)

If your English is not better than your home language, then speak, read, and sing to your child in your home language. Doing so will increase your child's ability to use language. Be inspired to learn more English and maintain your home language.

<https://www.colorincolorado.org/article/what-if-i-dont-know-english>

Masks Help Everyone Around You

COVID-19 is still circulating throughout California and the best way to slow the spread is to wear a mask whenever you leave the house. That's why the state is calling on all Californians to wear a mask or face covering when in public and unable to maintain a distance of at least six feet from others.

The California Department of Public Health has published the video below to educate the public on how to correctly wear a mask and protect those around you from COVID-19.

Help us spread the word by sharing the video with your networks and communities on social media.

<https://mailchi.mp/listoscalifornia/introducing-a-listos-california-collaboration-with-stayhomesavelives-4090341?e=6ebd2ed1db>

For the latest information regarding COVID-19 and California's response, visit the California All web site at <https://covid19.ca.gov/>.

CDE Free Streaming Video Subscription Service

Due to the ongoing need for virtual resources for ages 0 to preschool, the CDE Streaming Video Subscription Service at <https://www.cdevideos.org/> is now available at no cost! The website is currently being updated to provide **free and direct access to all registered users**.

Social Media and Email

To stay up to date with new resources and information, follow the CDE Multilingual Support Division on Twitter [@MultilingualCA](https://twitter.com/MultilingualCA).

To subscribe to the Multilingual Updates Listserv and receive this newsletter along with other updates, send a blank email to join-multilingual-support-division-updates@mlist.cde.ca.gov.