

Dear 5HA Families,

Welcome to a new and unique school year! While we are starting the year virtually, upon returning to the classroom, we will be the hybrid model.

If your child is anything like me or my two children, they may be feeling a mix of emotions from excitement to anxiety, anticipatory exhilaration to fear or concern. Let me assure you that my primary goal is to help your student be the best 5th grader and life-long learner possible. Anything I can do to help your child through this year, these unknown times, and school in general, is merely an email away. We are truly in this together.

Please complete this [quick Q&A](#) so I can learn more about your child, before Tuesday.

Tuesday, September 8th is the first day of school for students. Please be sure your child follows the steps of setting up the laptop as soon as possible. The instructions were sent from the district and were included in the laptop you picked up. Please test the sound, especially with new headsets, before Tuesday. To practice a Teams call, your child can use this link: <https://www.cbsd.org/page/63271>

Our first teams meeting will start at 9:00 on Tuesday. Directions are at the bottom of this letter, for how to find our Teams meeting on Canvas. New this year, students will start in a waiting room and must be admitted to the meeting. **I recommend having your child log on, with their microphone muted, around 8:55 am.**

One important note is about communication. We know that these are difficult times and issues will arise with learning: technology, family, health, emotions, and even just angst from the changes/unknown. If, or when, there are issues, communicating immediately is imperative. We can work together through the issues. We want to avoid at-home frustration about school as much as possible. Plus, chances are, if your child is having an issue, so are others.

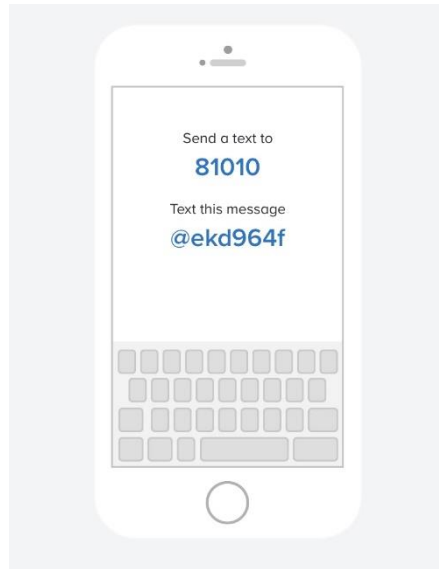
The first week is focusing on learning technology and getting to know our classmates. Specials will commence the second week of school. More information about specials schedules and links will be forthcoming. Although they will look different than in the past, there will still be supports (reading lab) for students who qualify. We are awaiting information about administering beginning of the year assessments. They will not occur the first week of school.

This is my 22nd first day of school as a teacher and I can assure this first day is unique. We have been working as a team, and building, to make the first day as seamless, valuable, and accessible as is possible within the parameters we have been provided. While I am hopeful that everything will be without glitches, we are working with technology and a new Learning Management System (Canvas), so anything is possible. Directions for connecting to my Remind App are below. This will be the **FASTEST** way for you to communicate with me if there is a tech issue. When we are live, we will not be accessing emails, so if your child is struggling to get into a Teams call, you can let me know through a quick Remind message.

Thank you for your child with me this school year. Thank you, also, for your patience and understanding as we navigate this new school year together.

With joy and gratitude,
Lynn Hartzell

Directions for parents to join the **Remind App**.



Directions to access your **first morning meeting** in 5th grade.

After signing in with your Username and Password, please click on the Canvas Icon
Then follow the directions below.



Click on "Homeroom" when you get to Canvas and look for the "Teams Meeting" button shown below.

A screenshot of the Canvas LMS interface. At the top, there are three large buttons labeled "Writing", "Science", and "Social Studies", each with an icon and the word "Times" below it. Below these are buttons for "Monday", "Tuesday", "Wednesday", "Thursday", and "Friday". At the bottom, there are several smaller buttons: "Schedule", "Announcements", "Teams Meeting" (circled in blue), "Parent Resources", and "Building Websites". A blue arrow points from a speech bubble to the "Teams Meeting" button. The speech bubble contains the text: "Welcome back, Warwick Bears! Use this Teams Meeting button to find your teacher and classmates in your virtual classroom!". To the left of the speech bubble is a cartoon bear mascot wearing sunglasses.

5th Grade First Week Schedule

9:00 - 11:30	LIVE Teams Call
	Asynchronous Work/Break
	LIVE Teams Call
	Asynchronous Work/Break
11:30 - 12:30	Lunch/Recess
12:30 - 2:30	LIVE Teams Call
	Asynchronous Work/Break
	LIVE Teams Call
	Asynchronous Work/Break
	End of Student Day