



October 8, 2020

Dear PRES Families,

Thank you so much for your ongoing support as we head into the second month of school. We hope you and your family continue to stay safe and healthy. Here are a few updates to keep you informed:

PARENT-PRINCIPAL COFFEE: Just a reminder... we will have our first virtual Parent-Principal Coffee of the 2020-21 school year tomorrow, **Friday, October 9th at 9:30 AM**. Throughout the year, I will be hosting informal parent-principal coffees. This is an opportunity to meet with me in an informal "virtual" setting, to hear more about initiatives at school and ask general questions. **Please use this link to join our Google Meet Parent-Principal Coffee tomorrow:** <https://meet.google.com/jyv-ktcj-gak>.

EMERGENCY DRILLS: Throughout the year, we will be conducting a number of different drills in order for our students and staff to practice a variety of emergency procedures. At this time, we have already completed 6 fire drills. The next drill we will conduct will be a **lockdown drill**, which will take place during the school day tomorrow, **Friday October 9th**. Due to COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions, we will not be gathering students in a small area of the classroom. Instead, students will remain in their seats and the teacher will explain what we would do if we needed to utilize a lockdown procedure.

We continue to work closely with the district, local police, school safety consultants, and our building Safety Team, to ensure that Pound Ridge Elementary School is a safe place for your children to learn without instilling fearful reactions in our young students. When your child comes home from school tomorrow, if he/she does not discuss the lockdown drill with you at home, there is no need to bring it up. If your child asks any questions, be honest, use brief, simple explanations in a way that your child can understand. You can reassure them that their school and homes are safe places where the adults in their lives are there to keep them safe. We will continue to hold these drills, as well as others, throughout the school year. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

GOOGLE MEET GUIDELINES: As you support your children at home during the remote days (whether fully remote or on the hybrid schedule), please be sure to follow our [Community Guidelines for Videoconferencing](#). Do not take a screenshot, picture, Snapchat, etc of your teacher or fellow students. Do not make any audio or video recordings.

HALLOWEEN: While we have not finalized our plans yet to celebrate Halloween at school, we are working to develop a week-long school spirit week that will include a modified, staggered Halloween parade which has become a hallmark of PRES. Stay tuned for more details.

HYBRID FIRST SEMESTER CALENDAR: If you are a parent of a student in grades 3-5, **please keep handy** this [Hybrid First Semester Calendar 2020-2021](#) that lets you know on which days cohort 1 and cohort 2 are in school. It reflects the new half day remote days which were added to the calendar.

Thank you again for your partnership and support.

Sincerely,
Amy Fishkin