

# FAQ

## Room 116 Hybrid Model FAQ's

**Q: Will students get reminders for Teams meetings?**

A: The read aloud will be at 12:15 and the math lesson will be at 8:20. These times will not change. They have learned various ways to enter the meeting as well as accepting the invitation in their emails. By accepting the invitation, they will get automatic reminders via Teams. It's best to leave Teams open and running so to ensure they see the reminders.

**Q: How do students log-in to Type To Learn?**

A: They know how to do that now. This is the only site that is a little different. They use their student ID (300...), or computer username, as their username and their password.

**Q: What are the expectations for Spelling City?**

A: Each Monday students will complete a pretest. Then I will assign a few fun games for spelling practice that should be completed during the week. On Friday's, the students will take their spelling test on Spelling City.

**Q: Will students bring home textbooks?**

A: I typically don't send textbooks home very often. This year is different, and I imagine the kids will need their books at home much more than they typically would. As the year progresses this will become clearer.

**Q: Will students have work assigned for each part of the suggested remote schedule?**

A: The suggested remote schedule is a guideline to help with pacing. Students might not have every subject assigned every remote day. Also, some students will complete work faster and some slower than the suggested time. That is ok.

**Q: My child finished his/her work much to quickly, what else can they do?**

A: Check out the 'Self-Directed Learning Activities' link on my website. There are a lot of activities that students may do. The work ranges from simple math fact practice to book reports and Genius Hour. This is not a requirement.

**Q: What if my child can't make a Teams meeting?**

A: That's ok! There are a couple options. As of now, they are only missing the read aloud. One solution is to download Teams in the Apple or Android store and login that way. They can listen to the story on the go. The other option to see if the story is on my web-site. Most books I read will have a YouTube read aloud that I'll link to.

**Q: Will there be live meetings besides the read aloud?**

A: In the spirit of starting slowly, there will only be the read aloud meeting for now. I hope to eventually get to a point where I can teach a math lesson everyday. I first want to have the kids in a solid routine of our math program before we begin that. I currently don't have a timeline for when that might begin. UPDATE:

**Q: How can I review my child's math work?**

Parents are free to look through all the OneNote assignments, on their student's device, whenever it is convenient for you. I am working on a way to send home paper copies of their completed Exit Tickets. I'm not sure if that will happen, however.

**Q: Is it possible to have more paperwork and less Happy Numbers, as well as more grammar activities?**

I am sending as much paper activities home as possible. I will begin sending the math problem sets home in paper form and the students can decide to use that or OneNote. Unfortunately, due to the circumstances of this year, I am using OneNote for math if we eventually go full remote. If that were to happen, the transition in math would be seamless. I look forward to being back with all the kids in the room and utilizing the math program as we typically do.

**Q: Having a lot of online work gets to be too much screen time. Is there a way to balance that out?**

I certainly agree with this perspective. I am doing my best to keep as much of a balance as I can (reading Tic-Tac-Toe, grammar, spelling worksheets, social studies activities). Many online activities (Happy Numbers, Spelling City, Type-To-Learn...) are done this way every year. The main purpose of these activities is to acquaint students with keyboard and computer usage, as well as provide appropriate practice. It is, all opinion aside, a part of the world we live in. Preparing them for the world we live in is an important part of the modern educational process. The exception is how I chose to do math this year. I understand this may be a frustration for some, but it is the decision I made before school began, only because of the circumstances we find ourselves in. Please understand that we were one of few schools doing a hybrid model when the year started, and it was not an unpopular opinion to think that we would have been fully remote by now. My decision was based on preparation for that. As the year continues, I will consider all options.

**Q: The stylus can be frustrating for math assignments. Is there another way to complete the OneNote work?**

The kids can type into OneNote as well. If they choose to type, they will only have to use the stylus for drawing, when needed.

**Q: Will the hyperlinks be updated and active on the appropriate days?**

A couple of the directions in OneNote will not be updated regularly. Meaning, the same directions apply for several days or weeks. One example is independent reading, those directions will not change at all. Another is reading tic-tac-toe; those directions will change periodically (I hope this answers that concern).

**Q: Is there a particular amount of time that we should allot to journaling?**

Please see my suggested remote learning schedule (located under the remote learning link on my webpage). This gives allotted time for each subject/activity.

**Q: Do you think the students have enough work to keep them on pace with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade curriculum?**

I certainly admit to getting off to a bit of a slow start, especially in math. However, I think that we will complete the core curriculum. I do fear that the kids may fall short with learning to type properly, practicing math facts, and some of those fringe skills that we work on in school during a typical year. I have adjusted my [suggested remote schedule](#) to include these activities more specifically and clearly.

**Q: Is there more we can do at home to make sure they do not fall behind?**

I would suggest making sure that your child practices math facts and begins to learn to type properly. Those are both key skills that are needed in 4th grade and beyond. Furthermore, I strongly suggest utilizing my [self-directed learning](#) link on my [webpage](#). There are a lot of different activities that range from Happy Numbers, math facts, and typing to Genius Hour and book reports.

**Q: The amount of work is too little, and I wonder if the students are being appropriately challenged. Will this be addressed?**

I have always made sure I don't give my students busy work. I think through what I give them and never want to send work for the sake of sending work. Furthermore, I firmly believe that true and significant development comes from balance. Eight and nine-year-old children should not be overworked, but be playing, imagining, participating in group/team activities, etc. Furthermore, the nature of this school year is making it a challenge to complete the basic 3rd grade course work. It is important that all students are exposed to each grade level's course work to prevent gaps in obtaining the appropriate skill set at each age. This is making providing a challenge a little more difficult. I would again suggest you look at my self-directed learning link. There are also great workbooks out there such as the Brainquest grade level workbooks. Finally, if you have a specific desire for your child, reach out to me and we can discuss how to move forward, ensuring your child's needs are being met.

**Q: At times, the understanding from instruction in the class appears to be different from the website. So, can you provide more clarity for the parents about the expectation of work completion at home?**

Anytime students are expected to complete something at home, they have been taught the skill and have had a chance to practice here at school. At the very least, I have gone over the activity and given an opportunity to ask questions. If further clarification is ever needed please reach out to me Via email or, preferably, the kids can reach out to me via Teams comments and I will help them. Unfortunately, I can only promise to be around to help from 2:30-3:30 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. I will do my best at other times. I will also do my best to make the directions in OneNote as clear as possible.

As far the basic idea of work completion, all work sent home is expected to come back to school completed. I am being very flexible with due dates because of the nature of the circumstances we find ourselves in. Unless a different due date is noted, please have each week's work turned in on Friday, or if that is not possible, the following Monday.

Finally, I have made a few videos that you can find on my [website](#) under 'Remote Learning Resources' that address some common things we are doing in class. These videos are tutorials that are meant to help both the student and parent. Please let me know if you feel a specific topic that I have not covered would be helpful.