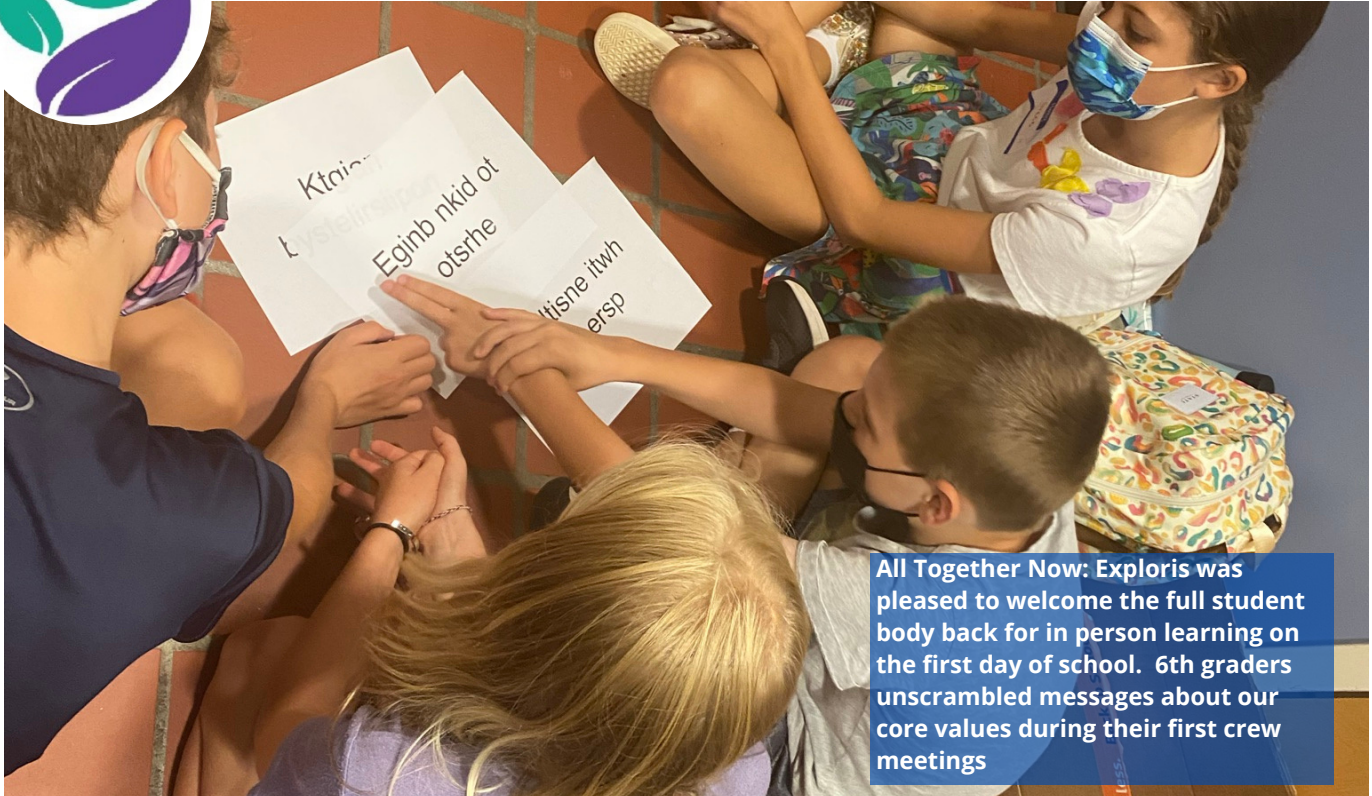




Monthly Newsletter



All Together Now: Exploris was pleased to welcome the full student body back for in person learning on the first day of school. 6th graders unscrambled messages about our core values during their first crew meetings

Inside the Issue

COVID UPDATES

Our Flowchart and Family FAQ

FIRST FLEX DAY

Learn more about these innovative plans for personalizing learning

FIRST DAYS!

Get a glimpse of some of our classrooms these first few days of the new school year!

SCHOOLPASS

SchoolPass is the system we will be using this year for secure student arrivals, dismissals, and visitor management. Families should have received a text with your unique log in information and your "quick pin." If you have not received this yet or need a new number or additional information, please reach out to Michael@Exploris.org and we can get you started.



COVID-19

Working Together to Keep Us All Learning

As cases rise in our community, we know it is likely we will see a rise in our schools as well. To help mitigate the spread of Covid-19, The Exploris School strongly encourages vaccines for those who are eligible and routine testing for all as a way to help with early detection, especially with asymptomatic cases, and to slow the spread for everyone.

Here's How You Can Help:

1. Keep sick kids home
2. Have students tested for Covid before returning to school
3. Practice routine testing to catch asymptomatic cases

As much as we know these steps can be inconvenient or even difficult for an individual family, they are steps we need to ask ALL members of our Exploris community to take in order to protect as many students and staff as possible. Covid tests are fast and free and available at multiple sites throughout the Triangle. We recommend the Kidd Road site, just a short drive from the Elementary Campus.

[Wake County Testing Locations](#)

**COVID-19
TESTING**

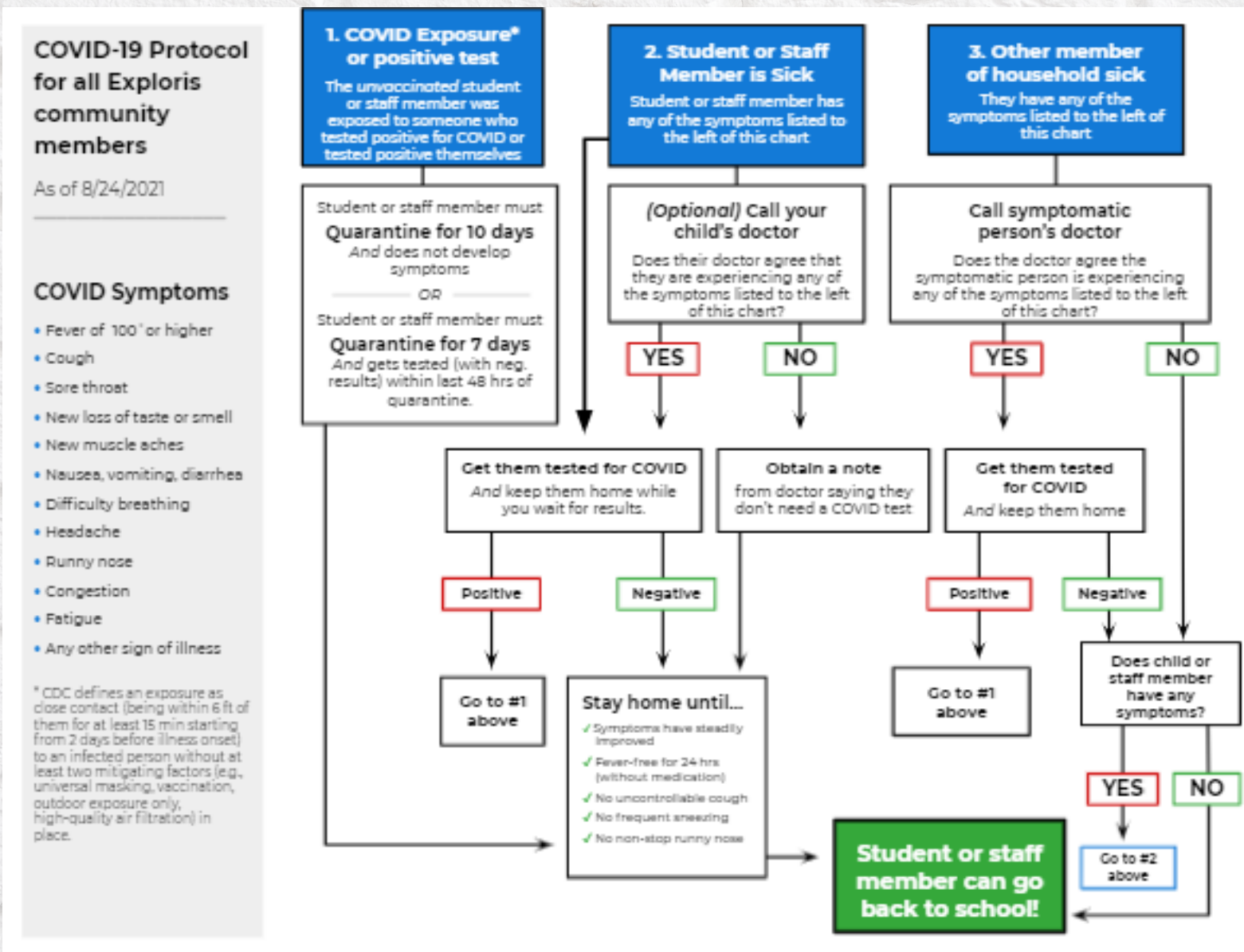


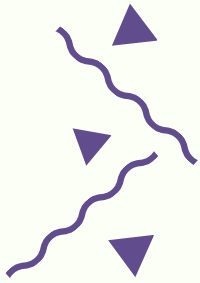
WHEN CAN MY STUDENT RETURN?

FLOW CHART FOR FAMILIES

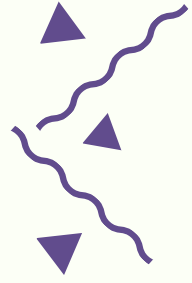
Since ANY new symptoms in students could be early signs of Covid-19, and since exposures happen from multiple sources and at different times, here's the guidance from the CDC and from the NC Department of Health and Human Services about when students can return to school following an exposure, symptoms, and/or diagnosis of Covid-19.

[Click this link to see the full flowchart](#)





ORDERING LUNCH AT EXPLORIS



Key Links

[FAQ about Green Planet Lunch Program](#)

[Exploris Online Ordering System Link](#)

[Step By Step Guide of How to Order](#)

Green Planet Lunches

From Michelle Duncan, School Counselor and Student Services Coordinator

Hello Families,

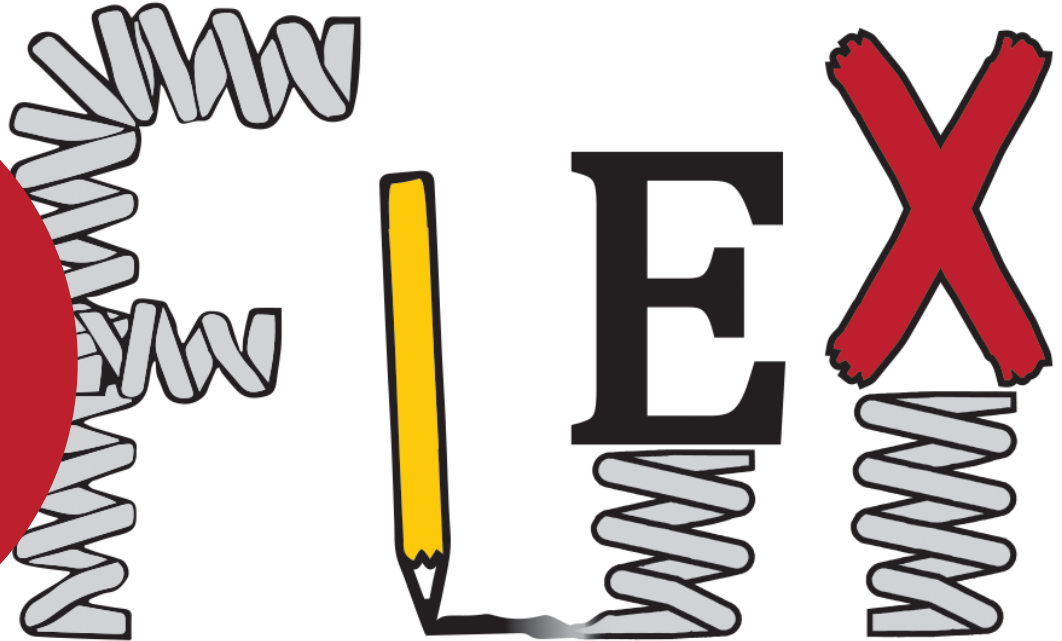
Thanks for your patience as we worked out the new system and vendor. Green Planet Ordering System is now up and running. If you qualify for free/reduced lunch and have not enrolled in the program there is still time to do this. If you would like to enroll or have questions about the lunch ordering process please email counselor@exploris.org.

WHAT'S A FLEX DAY?

5 DAYS FOR MITIGATING LEARNING LAG

Dates

Sept. 13th
Nov. 12th
Jan. 18th
March 23rd
May 2nd



Flex Days

Flex Days are an innovation to our school calendar to help with interventions for any learning lag students may have experienced from the past year, and to help teachers learn new skills for reaching all students. We know with strong digital learning activities, most students can work independently from home and benefit from some focused time away from classroom distractions, while others can benefit from some smaller groups and targeted time working on specific skills in the classroom with more attention from their teachers. On Flex Days, most students will work from home on teacher-assigned activities while others will be invited to come to campus for full or half days to work on areas their teachers have identified where they could use some extra support. Look for notes from your crew teachers about 3 days before each date to see if your student is being invited to come for a small group, and look for directions from teachers on what they can be doing at home on each Flex Day!

Curriculum Night



Building Tours SIGN UPS

Because we know many families have not yet been able to tour the buildings, we will be offering families the chance for a self-guided walking tour at both Exploris campuses. Families can sign up for a 15 minute time slot to tour the building using the link above. Please choose one time slot per campus and limit the number of people in your party to no more than three.

Virtual Curriculum Night

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Because of the high rate of Covid infections in our area, we will be holding our curriculum night virtually.

Crew teachers, Global Arts teachers, Counseling, Support Staff and Administration will all host zoom calls to describe their program and answer family questions between about 6:00 and 8:00 pm on Thursday, September 23rd.

Please watch your emails for specific times and for links for your grade levels. All sessions will be recorded in case families have multiple children in different grade levels or in case of a conflict with the live session.

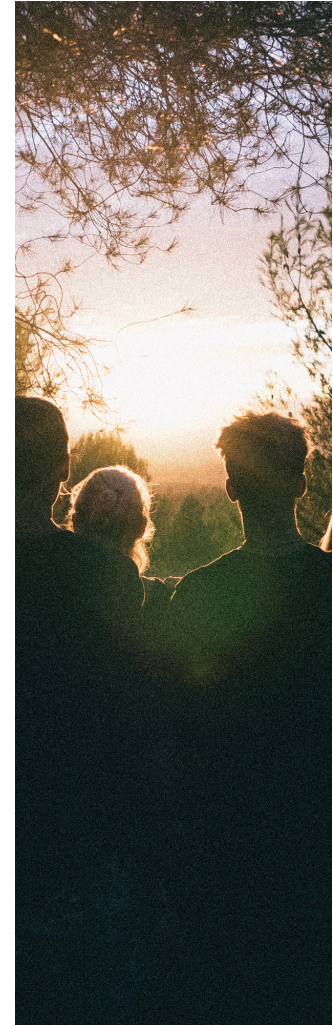


SAY SOMETHING

It is time for the annual "Say Something" training for all middle school students.

"Say Something" is a youth violence prevention program from Sandy Hook Promise. "Say Something Anonymous Reporting System" allows youth and adults to submit secure & anonymous safety concerns to help identify and intervene upon at-risk individuals BEFORE they hurt themselves or others. North Carolina adopted this online system statewide for schools to use to help prevent school violence. [Link to Brochure](#)

For more information, you can check out the website from the NC Department of Public Instruction. If you have questions or concerns you can contact Counselor@Exploris.org



Sandy Hook
PROMISE



FEDERAL PROGRAMS UPDATES

The Exploris School Title I Information Guide for Parents **[Spanish - click here](#)**

What is Title I, Part A? Title I, Part A (Title I) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides financial assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards. Federal funds are currently allocated through four statutory formulas that are based primarily on census poverty estimates and the cost of education in each state.

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, The Exploris School receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means of carrying out the requirements of The Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1116. For more information regarding parent rights, click ESSA Parent Rights

[Spanish ESSA Parent Rights](#)

Please review and provide feedback regarding our policy and school-family compact:

[Parent Family Engagement Policy](#)

[Spanish- Parent Family Engagement Policy](#)

[School/Family Compact](#)

[Spanish-School/Family Compact](#)

[Complete the Parent Feedback Form](#)

OUR PHOTOGRAPHER, AMY AMES, WILL
RETURN THIS YEAR FOR SCHOOL AND
FAMILY PORTRAITS



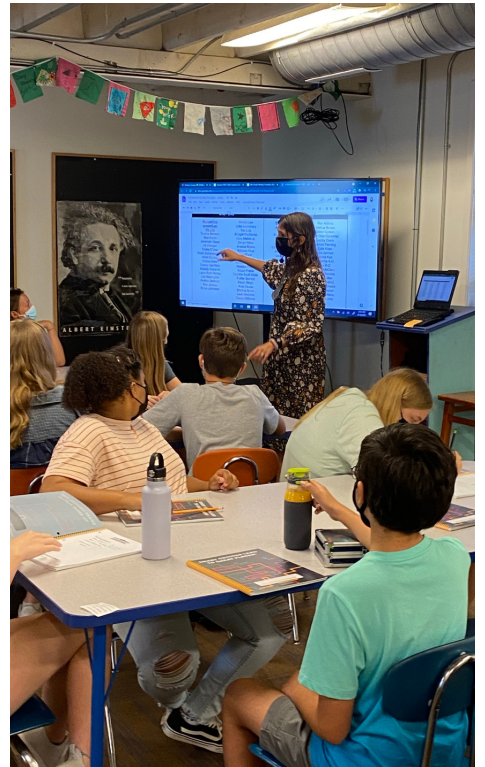
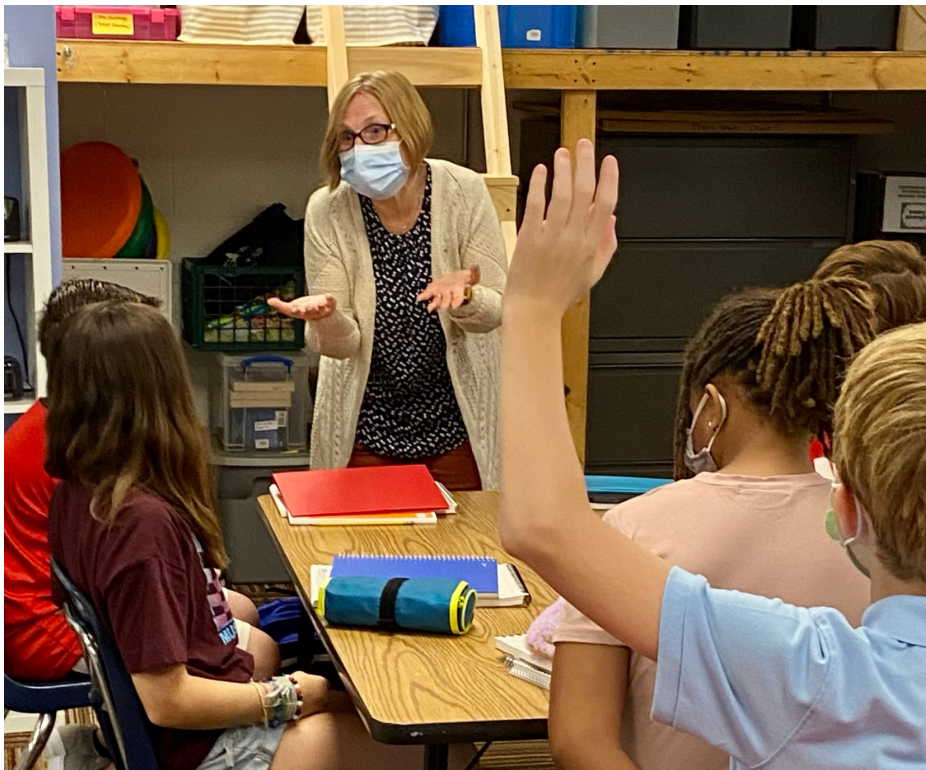
OCTOBER 19TH AND 20TH

Student pictures will be taken during the school day on both campuses on Tues. Oct. 19th and Wednesday, Oct. 20th. Amy will also be scheduling special evening sessions on Friday, October 22nd starting at about 4:15 pm for siblings, families, and even family pets! Stay tuned for more information.

**AMY AMES
PHOTOGRAPHY**

FIRST LOOK

CHECK OUT SOME SCENES FROM OUR SCHOOL OPENING



STAFF KICK-OFF!

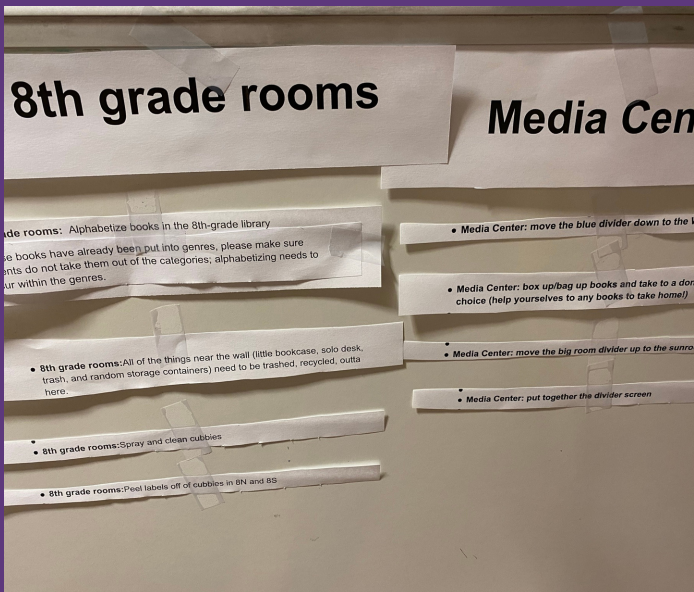
Monday, August 9th



The City of Raleigh Museum hosted the entire Exploris staff for the kick off to our back to school workweek, as staff gathered in one place for the first time since March of 2020. The team from NC State's Industry Expansion Solutions led us through Kaizen (a continuous improvement process) to envision the Exploris program for this year and for years to come.

MIDDLE SCHOOL WORKDAY

THANKS TO ALL THE
FAMILIES WHO CAME OUT
TO HELP GET OUR CAMPUS
READY!





CHECK OUT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!



MON. SEPT 13

Flex Day
MOST students will be learning from home and will NOT attend school. A few students will be invited to campus for early interventions. All families should look for work from teachers that kids will be doing at home that day!



THURS. SEPT. 16TH

No School- Yom Kippur
We wish an easy fast for our families who are observing



THUR. SEPT. 23RD

Exploris's Annual Curriculum Night
This will be virtual this year; watch for details on how you can attend through a Zoom link to meet the teachers and learn about the plan for learning this year.



WELCOME FALL!
SEPT. 22ND

