

Sent to Nursery School Families on Wednesday, March 18

Dear Families,

I hope you, your families and friends are all healthy and well.

Today I am missing seeing many of you in person, either in the elevator or in the hallways. This is my eighteenth year in the Nursery School and my seventh year as Director. This position comes with challenges as most jobs do. Unexpected things happen. Each day brings something new. Some things are hard, but overall, the rewards outweigh the difficulties. Watching and experiencing the children grow, seeing the camaraderie of amazing teachers each day, developing relationships with wonderful families, this list goes on and on.

The unfolding events of the last few days have felt more difficult than anything we have been faced with before. This is uncharted territory for all of us; we are fighting an invisible enemy and trying to be there for each other in ways that are different from the way we usually interact. But, we are all in this together.

We have been working with our teachers to set up schedules to include zoom meetings, projects to do at home with your children, videos of singing, puppet shows, special activities, movement class, mental health appointments with Isabel, Shabbat sing-along, and various other interactive activities. They are working now in unfamiliar territory and trying to engage virtually when their work typically involves so much in-person connection. Luckily, our teachers are fast learners, (me, not so much). Although we are not able to fully offer you the service and in-person interaction and care that we would have hoped for, we are working hard to continue fostering the relationships between you, your children, and the staff. Not being able to see the children in the classrooms, hear them in the hallways, or race to get the coveted corner spot in the elevator saddens us deeply. There's nothing better than having a child offer you their hand or give you a hug.

Let's hope this time passes safely and quickly for everyone and we are all back together very soon.

Sincerely,
Bonnie Blanco
Director of Early Childhood Engagement