


## At Home Virtual Program

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The Virtual Perch, Family Edition: 19 April March 2024

1 file • Dr. Christy Mathews, Director of Virtual Learning •  Christine Mathews • 3 days ago • Friday, Apr 19 at 9:30 AM • **At Home Virtual Program**



# Mehlville School District



**At Home**  
*Connect. Engage. Achieve.*

**The Virtual Perch**



**The Virtual Perch Newsletter**  
**19 April 2024**

**Director's Message**

Happy Friday At Home Academy families,

We've reached that time of year where it's gotten to be quite the challenge to keep our students online and actively engaged. Once we feel the downward slide of the school year and summer vacation is in sight, keeping up stamina gets tougher for students, parents, and staff alike. How can you help? Remind your child that even when it's tough, it's important to stay in the moment and continue giving your best. When you speak with your child, name it. Let them know you realize it's getting more difficult and then let them know that's a normal part of things, too - we all experience this in our careers and daily lives to some degree. This is a teachable moment. Sometimes they'll have to "fake it 'til they make it", tricking themselves through sheer determination. Though this article, [How to Combat Academic Burnout](#), is focused on burnout at the college level, the skills and advice are the same for our youngest learners and for adults no longer in school.

Including today, we have 28 days of school remaining. Thank you for encouraging your child to finish the year strong and for talking to them about how to make this happen.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership,  
Dr. Mathews

**STUDENT SUPPORT & IMPORTANT CALENDAR EVENTS**

### End of year celebrations and major events

Mark your calendar for the following events occurring toward the end of the school year:

- **4.24** Early Release (live classes from 8a-11a: schedule to be shared by teacher) - \*\*this is no longer a full asynchronous day
- **4.29-5.10** Spring benchmark testing
- **5.6-5.10** Teacher Appreciation Week
  - School-wide recognition
  - District-level recognition
- **5.24** Last day to turn in makeup work
- **5.29** Last day of school; class-level virtual ceremonies in grades K, 5, and 8
- **5.29-5.31** Materials and Chromebook return at JB office (69 Randolph Rd, 63125)

### Attendance

Attendance is taken throughout the day by classroom teachers and is recorded in Canvas. Student attendance can also be verified using GoGuardian which keeps track of how a student spends their time while online. If you would like a copy of the GoGuardian report, let me know.

If you or your child would like to speak with our counselor regarding needed supports for improving attendance, Ms. McKelvie can be reached at [dmckelvie@msdr9.org](mailto:dmckelvie@msdr9.org) or by calling our main line at 314-467-7850.

### Canvas observer accounts

By now, many of you have signed up for Observer accounts. When I first signed up as an observer on my children's accounts, I found the site was challenging to navigate at first. Visit [bit.ly/athomeparentcanvas](https://bit.ly/athomeparentcanvas) for observer account information, helpful tips, and more. And here's a [walkthrough video tutorial](#) for you, as well.

## IMPORTANT LINKS & UPCOMING CLUB AND ACTIVITY DATES

### Useful Links

Keep these links at your fingertips:

- **Attendance or other office needs: Mrs. Mary Beier, At Home Administrative Assistant, email at [beierm@msdr9.org](mailto:beierm@msdr9.org) or call 314-467-7850.**
- **At Home Academy school website**
- **Chromebook Tech Support:**  
**MSDChromebookHelp@msdr9.org**- contact this email with ANY Chromebook concerns. Include the student's name, username, grade, and school.
- At Home Academy **Student Handbook**
- At Home Academy **2023-2024 calendar** (live updates)
- At Home Academy **Google Calendar subscription**
- Staff recognition opportunities
  - **School-wide recognition**
  - **District-level recognition**



### Upcoming Student Club and Activity Events

The important dates below can also be found on our school calendar listed on our **school's website**. If you use Google Calendar, you can also **add our calendar** to yours so you never miss a date.

- **4.23** Owl's Eye View student news club
- **4.30** Cookless Cooking; Owl's Eye View student news club
- **5.1** Something to Hoot About virtual announcement club
- **5.6** K-5 Art Club
- **5.7** Owl's Eye View student news club
- **5.8** Something to Hoot About virtual announcement club; Art Club (6-8)
- **5.14** Cookless Cooking; Owl's Eye View student news club
- **5.15** Something to Hoot About virtual announcement club
- **5.21** Owl's Eye View student news club
- **5.22** Something to Hoot About virtual announcement club

### Counselor's Corner

### State Testing Plans - Regional Testing

On testing days, drop off your child with a nutritious snack to fuel their body and brain, a bottle of water, a jacket or sweater, and something to read when finished testing.



- **Florissant / North St. Louis County**
  - **April 18 (19): 9a-2p**
  - [John F. Kennedy Community Center](#)
  - **Room: Carnation Cove**
- **Western Missouri testing**
  - **April 25 (26): 9a-2p**
  - [East Hills Library](#)

If you have concerns regarding MAP testing, please contact Deana McKelvie at 314-467-7849, or email her at dmckelvie@msdr9.org.

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\*Ms. McKelvie is a part-time counselor who is with At Home Academy on Mondays, Wednesdays, and alternating Fridays. Visit the resources below to request support, or reach out to Ms. McKelvie by phone at 314-467-7849 or by email at dmckelvie@msdr9.org.

### Counseling Resource Links

[Virtual Counseling Office](#)

[At Home Academy Counselor Request Form](#)

**12 April 2024**



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### Comments & Replies

Comment...