

## Classroom Apps for Home

While challenges abound this year, there are still quite a few things that are working. Our teachers are working hard to love on our students and doing their best to keep all the students engaged with the learning process. Our families are working hard to keep us all in-person by keeping sick children home and communicating with the administration. Our kids are working hard towards finishing this quarter and being  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the way finished with the school year! We know there are some areas that need improvement, and we would like to share some things that may help.

When your child is home because of a COVID-related absence, please make sure you are using these tools to help them stay engaged with their teacher and their learning. If you need to borrow a Chromebook while your student is home, please contact [ldoty@gcswarriors.org](mailto:ldoty@gcswarriors.org) to make arrangements. Here are a few guidelines to keep in mind when your child is learning from home.

**Google Classroom** - Your student has an account that allows them to access their teacher's virtual classroom where assignments, resources, links to class sessions, and other pertinent information is posted every day. Your child can also return their work to their teacher using this same application if the teacher sent them a Google Doc or PDF to complete. Work is due on the posted due date. Late work penalties will apply, unless discussed with the teacher outside of instructional time. Make sure to click the 'Mark as done' button when you are finished to let your teacher know you have attached your work and finished the assignment.

[Google Classroom Apple app](#) & [Google Classroom Android app](#) - These, in conjunction with Genius Scan, will allow your child to upload work to their assignments and allows you to see what they are doing in class.

[Genius Scan app](#) - Install this on your smart device, and when you need to send a worksheet or handwritten assignment back to your teacher, use this free app to take a picture of your work, upload it to your device, then attach it back to your Google Classroom assignment and click 'Mark as done'.

[Kami app](#) - For older students (6th and up), this is a great tool to work on PDF's without printing them. Students can sign in using their Google account and manipulate their worksheets

or other documents posted by their teacher. Make sure you save the changes, though! It works with Google but doesn't save automatically.

**Google Meet** - This is the video conferencing tool we use to help record lessons that the teachers feel are important to your child's continued success in school. A Meet link will be posted by the teacher before every class and students are expected to join every time the class meets, unless you have discussed alternatives with the teacher or principal. Students are not able to start Meet sessions—only join them. When joining a Meet, students are expected to dress appropriately, use appropriate language and behavior, keeping in mind coram Deo, just as if they were in school. Conference call etiquette is to mute yourself until you need to speak. Everyone joining a Meet should mute themselves first and wait for the teacher to recognize them before speaking and then mute again for instruction. If there is a question about the material, make sure to type your question in the chat section and raise your hand.

We hope that with a little more focused effort on everyone's part, we can get through some of these struggles. Please know that we are making some changes in the classrooms that we hope will make livestream classes work a little better for both teachers and students. And, if all else fails, sign out, turn it off, and start over. If that doesn't work, please reach out to the Help Desk team at [helpdesk@gcswarriors.org](mailto:helpdesk@gcswarriors.org) or text Laura Doty at 540.256.8984 before 8:00 p.m., and someone will get back to you as quickly as possible. We are here to help!