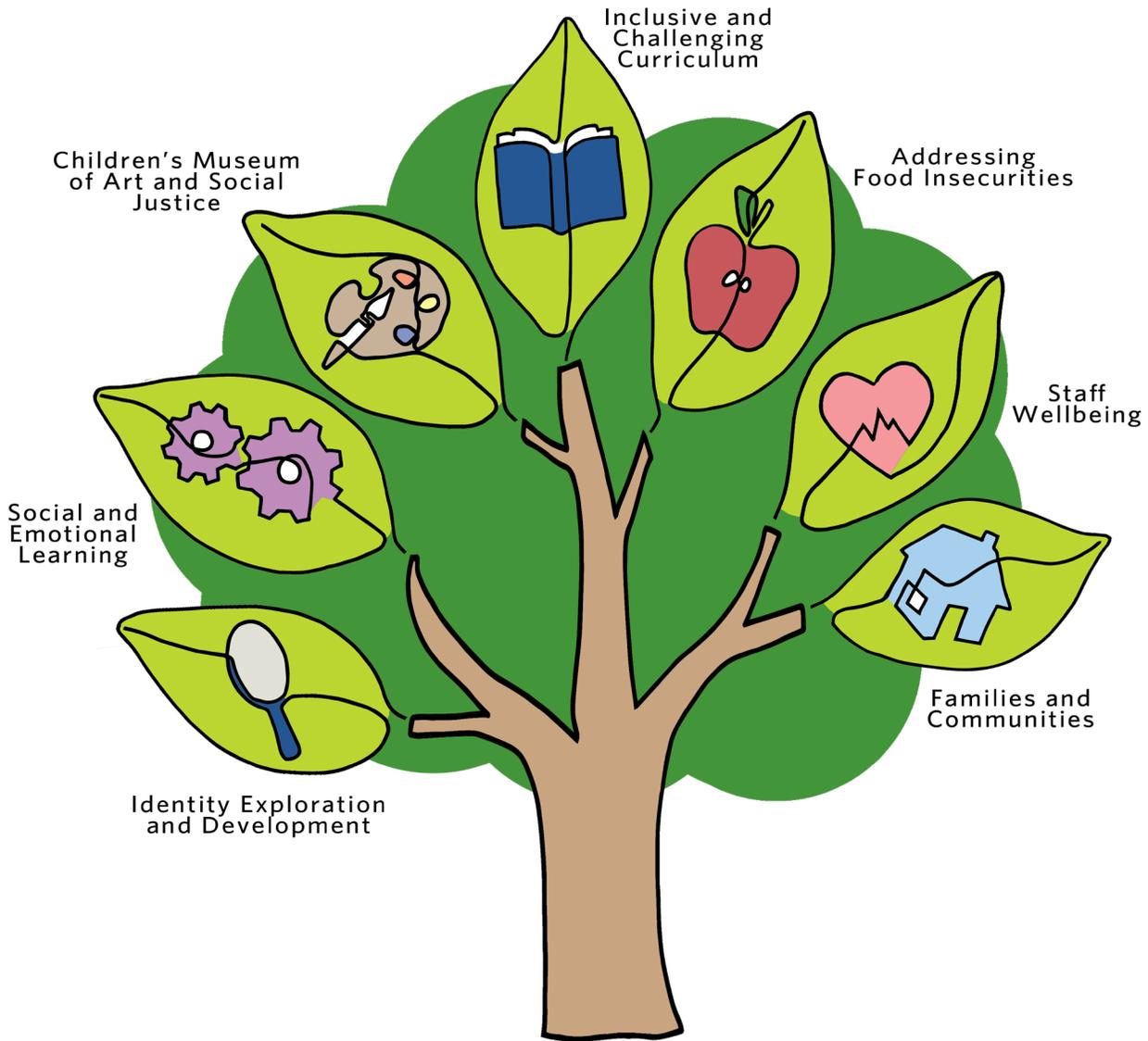


# THE WHOLE CHILD REVIEW

ISSUE NO. 3 SPRING EDITION



**KIPP:CHICAGO**

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# THE WHOLE CHILD REVIEW

ISSUE NO. 3 SPRING EDITION

## IN THIS ISSUE

LETTER	1
EMBRACING INCLUSIVE AND CHALLENGING CURRICULUM	3
SHARING RESOURCES FROM OUR CMASJ	5
INTEGRATING SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)	7
ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITIES	8
ENHANCING TEACHER WELLBEING	9
WCR RESOURCES AND ARTICLES	10

Dear KIPP Chicago Community,

We hope you are all well, safe, and adapting to this new normal as best as possible. These past few weeks have challenged us all at our core. Just this week, two sobering articles were released and Board member Craig Huffman, reflecting on the content says, "This WBEZ article highlights institutionalized health care inequalities that leave many low income black and brown communities more vulnerable than what is typically experienced in affluent communities. Dr. David Ansell's book, The Death Gap, accurately captures this unfortunate reality in great detail."

Another article in the New York Times, sites, "The data emerging in some places, researches said, is partly explained by factors that could make Black Americans more vulnerable in any outbreak: They are less likely to be insured, more likely to have existing health conditions, and as a result of implicit racial bias, more likely to be denied testing and treatment. And then, the researchers said, there is the highly infectious nature of the coronavirus in a society where Black Americans disproportionately hold jobs that do not allow them to stay at home." We know the implications these statistics have on our kids and families and this article illuminates the inequity that we must continue to fight. (See bottom of email for more resources/articles related to COVID-19)

As we practice physical-distancing and closed schools until at least April 30th, we are choosing to value connection, community, and love in whatever ways possible. We see this in the ways our teachers are connecting to students, even though there is no shared physical classroom. We see it in the joy, zest, and celebrations of learning that continue happening on YouTube channels and social media. And we certainly felt community during our first ever KIPP Chicago Zoom community circle (more on these examples below).

Adjusting to our new normal, we hold firm to our commitment to meet the needs of all KIPPsters, ensuring that they continue to receive a rigorous academic experience, have access to nutritional meals, and remain closely connected to the community of support in which each of our schools is grounded. The launch of our Whole Child Initiative and our progress highlighted in this latest edition of the Whole Child Review, have allowed us to rapidly respond to the basic needs of our students while we transition them to our at-home learning platform and shift to virtual classrooms. In partnership with CPS, we have provided access to daily meals to all students in need, connected students and families to public services and resources, and expanded our safety net through our network of community partners.

As we face an uncertain future together, we are focused on strengthening the resources we have available to our KIPPster community by continuing to build our Whole Child Fund to support their critical needs in three specific categories: addressing food insecurities, expanding virtual based academic achievement, and connecting to support services. We ask that you consider making a donation to our Whole Child Fund. Your support will make an immediate and significant impact on the lives of our students, bringing much needed stability and support.

In gratitude, community, and health,

April



Mr. Mitchell from KIPP Ascend Primary makes sure to add some 'just for fun' videos. In this [one](#), he makes blueberry muffins at home.



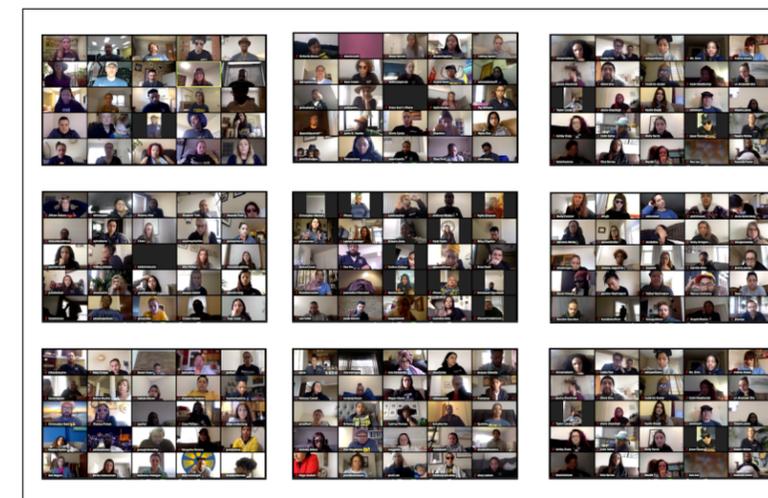
KIPP Ascend Primary's 1st grade team gives shout outs to students who are meeting expectations learning at home!



Ms. Jones from KIPP Bloom Primary gets KIPPsters up and moving and laughing with their favorite [song](#) about...fanny packs!



Ms. Patel and Ms. Moorehead from KIPP Academy Chicago get creative with a TikTok video encouraging their students to get each other onto Google Classroom!



On Friday, March 27th, we had our first KIPP Chicago Zoom community circle. We spent 45 minutes coming together in community through group meditation, some poetry, and a Q&A session with former US Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan. We look forward to coming together for more of these sessions in the future!

# Embracing an inclusive and challenging curriculum

From Billy Warden, Head of Schools:

At KIPP we often say: "Find a way or make one." The last few weeks have undoubtedly tested this core principle. But thanks to our committed teachers and leaders, we have found a way to safely ensure students receive food, a way to close a significant hardware gap, a way to navigate unfamiliar tech platforms for our lessons... and we have found a way to establish a simple fact: nothing, not even a global pandemic, can disrupt our Team and Family culture.

When an extended closure looked inevitable, teachers made their convictions clear. Their KIPPsters didn't have the luxury of missing out on learning. Simply printing worksheets or asking students to get on external education apps would not be enough. Our KIPPsters would need more from us. They would need love, they would need Joy-factor, and they would need us to do what we do best everyday, teach.

This is why KIPP Chicago's vision is for students to have access to the same education as if they were sitting at desks in our schools. Our teachers are working harder than ever to replicate their exact curriculum in Google virtual classrooms. They are uploading videos of morning circles, facilitating classroom shout-outs, and administering "exit tickets" to measure student mastery. They are literally "making" a way to deliver on our simple promise: "KIPP will do whatever it takes to see its students to and through college."

Team & Family Culture	Excellent Teaching
<p>KIPP Chicago staff...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>are in contact with 100% of families to understand their needs.</li> <li>are in communication twice weekly with every KIPP parent (at least once voice-to-voice) about child's progress.</li> <li>post encouraging videos, pictures, and messages on school social media accounts.</li> <li>are available for technology or homework support.</li> </ul>	<p>KIPP Chicago teachers...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>replicate their lesson plans and assignments through the use of Google virtual classrooms.</li> <li>post daily videos to engage with KIPPsters and model concepts.</li> <li>upload and teach one lesson every day.</li> <li>facilitate daily practice of skills and concepts, measuring mastery through "exit tickets."</li> <li>deliver feedback to all KIPPsters on every lesson.</li> <li>hold daily for "office hours" to answer questions about assignments.</li> </ul>

Our Academic Team continues to structure what at-home learning expectations look like.

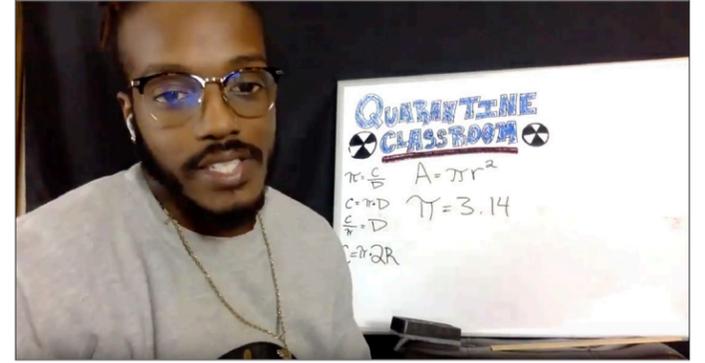
Time	Scheduled Activity
Before 9:00	Wake up, eat breakfast, get dressed
9:00 - 9:15	Fresh air outside, indoor movement
9:15 - 10:00	ELA Lesson & Video on Google Classroom
10:00 - 10:30	ELA Educational Technology (Newsela, Lexia, AR) - OR - Office hours with ELA teacher on GoogleHangouts if needed
10:30 - 11:15	Math Lesson & Video on Google Classroom
11:15 - 11:45	Math Educational Technology (ST Math or Khan Academy) - OR - Office hours with math teacher on GoogleHangouts if needed
11:45 - 12:30	Lunch & Play Time
12:30 - 1:00	Science Lesson & Video on Google Classroom
1:00 - 1:30	Office hours with science teacher on GoogleHangouts if needed
1:30 - 2:15	Literacy (5th Grade) / Social Studies (6-8th Grades) Lesson & Video on Google Classroom
2:15 - 2:45	Office hours with literacy (5th grade) Social Studies teacher on GoogleHangouts if needed
2:45 - 3:15	Brain Break / Play Time
3:15 - 4:00	Independent Reading Time

School Leaders are offering students a schedule to try and maintain a sense of normalcy while engaging in at-home learning.

## At-home Learning Highlights



Casey Weldon from KIPP One Primary created a beautiful YouTube [channel](#) for her students, including a project to create a 'Window of Hope' to honor the idea of keeping everyone safe by staying indoors.



Mr. Saunders leads his students in Quarantine Classroom [videos](#).



Ms. Nuñez from KIPP Academy Chicago Primary uses footage of her students from earlier in the year to create [videos](#), engaging her students in math lessons.



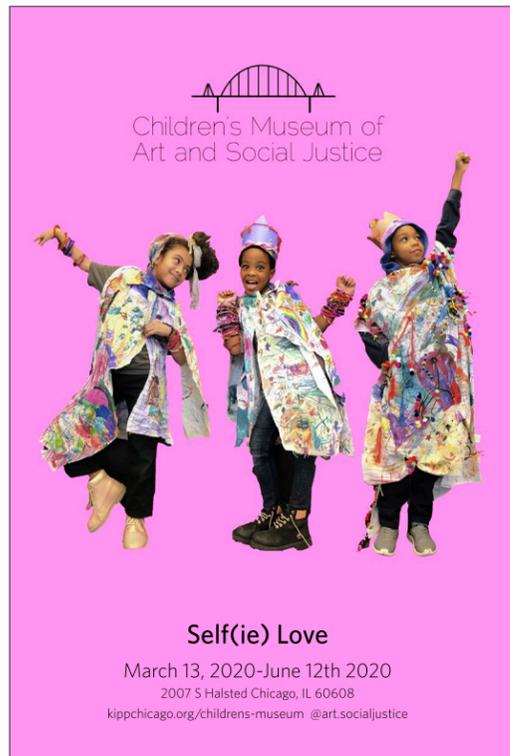
Ms. Grossheim makes sure to keep students engaged with costume pieces in her [lessons](#).

## KIPP: STEM Create at Home Challenge Winner



We want to highlight the work of Destiny Burrows, a student at KIPP Academy Chicago. Out of 400 submissions, Destiny was selected as one of two winners in the science presentation category for the KIPP Create-At-Home challenge! We are so proud of her creativity, energy, and incredible hard work. Check out her project on Mae Jemison.

# Sharing resources from our CMASJ



Our newest art installation was interrupted by stay-at-home guidance, but we look forward to sharing it with you! *Self(ie) Love* is an exhibition exploring ideas of identity and self love, showcasing work created by artists ranging from ages 5 to 13. When children are invited to express their identities through art, they are able to reflect on the many factors that contribute to who they are, ultimately celebrating all parts of themselves. Conversely, when we view someone else's story through their artwork, we experience more connection, compassion, and empathy.

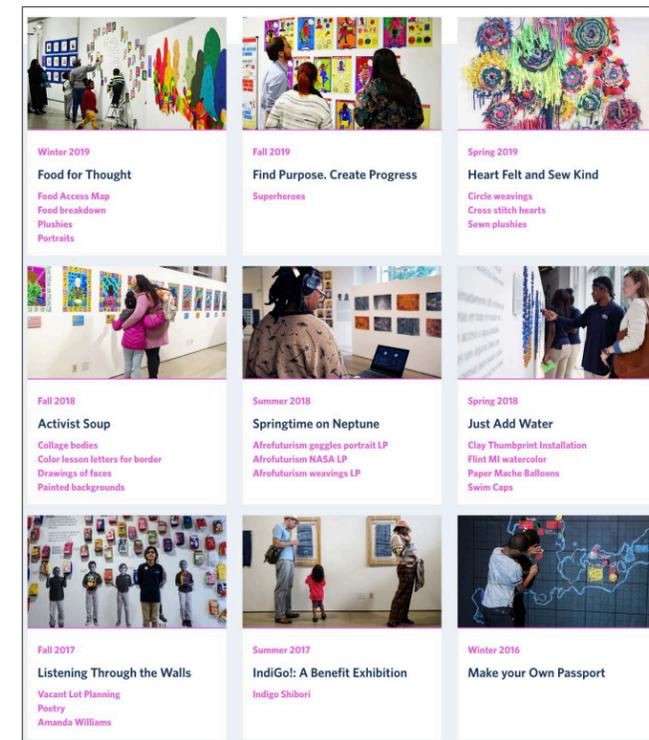


MarcAnthony, alum of KIPP Ascend Middle School, created this [video](#) of some of the artwork being made for our current show, *Self(ie) Love*, open until June 12th. MarcAnthony is starting his own company called, Phwealthy, to help small businesses advertise through video. We are so proud of his entrepreneurial skills and can't wait to see where he goes!

**“Learning to stand in somebody else’s shoes, to see through their eyes, that’s how peace begins. And it’s up to you to make that happen. Empathy is a quality of character that can change the world.” -Barack Obama**



Be on the lookout for a virtual tour. In the meantime, check out this [video](#) created by KIPP One Primary's visual arts teacher, Ms. Weldon and her students for the current show, *Self(ie) Love*. The song was written by the guitar player in front!



We're excited to share our new [CMASJ website](#) with you! This new site features lesson plans from every art show to share with other educators, photos from all 11 of our exhibitions, and more. We hope this can be a resource for parents and educators who are engaging their kids in learning about art and social justice. Click [here](#) to sign up for our newsletter to receive updates, volunteer opportunities, and calendar information.

# Integrating Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

Many teachers are making sure their students have a resource to keep them moving and taking deep breaths, and using positive affirmations to help navigate the stress and varying emotions during this time. We're so grateful for these special teachers! (From top photo to bottom) Ms. Robinson leads a '[Calm Classroom](#)' series on the KIPP Bloom Primary YouTube page. Mr. Gibson from KIPP Ascend Primary offers students a [dance break](#) with some mindfulness practice, deep breathing exercises, and positive affirmations. And, [Yoga](#) with Ms. Marshall from KIPP Academy Chicago Primary!

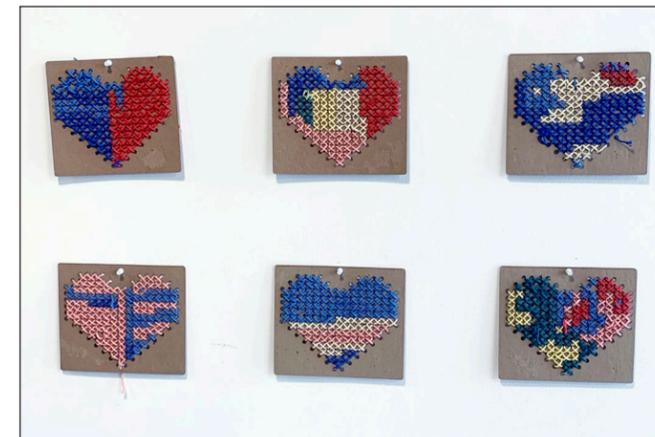


# Addressing food insecurities

KIPP Chicago essential employees, such as food service workers and custodians and volunteers, have worked hard to ensure our students and families continue to have two meals a day. Each day, all viable schools open from 9am-1pm to pass out pre-packaged meals for families. We are incredibly appreciative of their work!



These cross-stitch hearts were created by the 5th graders at KIPP Ascend Middle School last year as part of our Heart Felt and Sew Kind art show. They are still used to this day when sending gratitude to community partners or others who are working to make a difference. To our KIPP essential employees, we are so grateful for you!



KIPP Bloom has been consistently supporting the nutritional needs of their families. As we are planning to expand the capacity of the Bloom pantry, our community partnerships are equally important to meet the nutritional needs of families. Our most recent partnership is with the K.L.E.O. (Keep Loving Each Other) Center. K.L.E.O. (in partnership with University of Chicago) offers a monthly food pantry event that also services community health needs. The day of the event offers creative performances by local artists, diabetes testing for families, healthy food instruction and recipes and raffles. The event is open to the public and free. Find the monthly calendar [here](#).

## Enhancing teacher wellbeing

We loved welcoming teachers into our *Children's Museum of Art and Social Justice* for our first two wellbeing workshops: watercolor and yoga (see below). We are currently working on continuing our teacher wellness workshops online. We'll be looking for people to lead meditation, yoga, dance, and other workshops from home. We're really excited for our own Ellen Sale, School Leader of KIPP Bloom College Prep, to guide us in a yoga class as she is close to completing her certification!



### Partnerships and Teacher Discounts

[Unmeasured](#), a virtual barre class series, is offering teachers 20% off their monthly membership.

[Asutra](#) is offering a standing 10% membership for KIPP employees. This is right on time for our quarantine and chill! The code has been sent to staff and we're grateful for this partnership!

[Core Power Yoga](#) is offering a discounted Black Tag membership for Chicago Public Schools employees. This features unlimited yoga, at any Core Power Yoga studio across the United States. To take advantage of the membership you must present your KIPP Chicago ID card and enroll in auto renewal.

## Whole Child Review COVID-19 Resources and Articles

### The implications of COVID-19 on communities of color

This [WBEZ article](#) highlights institutionalized health care inequalities that leave many low income black and brown communities more vulnerable than what is typically experienced in affluent communities.

This [NYTimes article](#) quotes Lori Lightfoot, saying, "Those numbers take your breath away, they really do. This is a call-to-action moment for all of us," when discussing the newly released statistics that 72% of Chicago deaths have been African Americans.

### Talking about COVID-19 with children

This episode of [The Daily](#) focuses on how to talk with our children about COVID-19.

This [article](#) from PBS Kids features numerous resources for talking with kids about COVID-19, prevention, and taking care of ourselves. This [episode](#) of Daniel Tiger shows kids how to wash their hands. These are just a few of the video links to help children understand the pandemic.

One of our wonderful partners, Pure Edge, has great [content](#) for mindfulness and movement for adults and kids.

### Thinking about food during COVID-19

This [article](#) on practicing the [division of responsibility](#) in eating is a helpful guide to eating, especially during stress or trauma.

Enter your zip code at [feedingamerica.org](#) to find a food bank near you or to donate and find volunteer opportunities.

[Native Tongue](#) is a Chicago-based blog and free magazine. They believe that everyone deserves access to food education.

### Arts related

[Google Arts & Culture](#) takes you inside the collections of 2,500 museums worldwide, including special online exhibits.

The Children's Museum of the Arts in NYC has a great [website](#) with at-home art projects.

These [videos](#) from a Chicago early childhood education music teacher are great for children, ages 1-3.

This Artful [site](#) is FULL of theater and dance lessons.

# Whole Child Review COVID-19 Resources and Articles

## **Managing anxiety**

The Headspace app is offering a free set of meditation, sleep, and movement exercises, "Weathering the Storm." Try this [meditation for focus, stress, sleep, and even handwashing](#).

[Text HOME to 741741](#) from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from a secure online platform.

Managing stress and other tips for dealing with COVID-19 from the [CDC](#).

## **Parenting**

Motherwell, a space for telling all sides of the parenting story, has a [section](#) about what it is like to parent now. Their stories remind us that we are all in this together.

On the [Kids Cook Real Food](#) site, you can sign up for virtual classes to teach your kids cooking skills.

[Janet Lansbury](#) is a RIE (Resources for Infant Educators) trained expert on raising children in a respectful, connected way. We love her books and podcast, [Unruffled](#), where she guides parents through the challenges of raising children.