Dear HSA Belmont Community,

The 4th quarter has arrived! Where has the time gone? This school year has definitely been different than any others and we are so thankful for the opportunity to teach and learn alongside your children to ensure they are achieving at high levels. Our teachers have worked very hard to engage your child(ren) academically and their efforts, along with those of your children, are sure to pay off.

With all the circumstances taken into consideration, HSA-Belmont is excited to re-open for in-person learning as of Monday, April 12th for our KG-5th grade students and Monday, April 19th for our 6th-8th grade students. Approximately, 40% of our students will be in-person. Our staff will continue to ensure our students are learning in a safe environment.

Remote Learning has not stopped our HSA-Belmont students. They continue to impress us with their talents and skills, both within and beyond the classroom. This past semester, we have celebrated the successes of a variety of competitions, such as the Your Voice is Your Power Amazon/Georgia Tech Phyton programming competition, the CONSEF Science Fair, Spoken Word, Coderz League coding/robotics competition junior and pro division, and our Black History Month virtual performances.

Lastly, I would like to end by saying a sincere thank you to all Belmont families, teachers, and staff members. There have been many challenges with this school year, but I have greatly appreciated the patience, support, and understanding that all have offered throughout the year.

Warm Regards,
Serdar Kartal, M.Ed.
Principal

Save the Dates

- March 19: 3rd Quarter Ends
- March 24: Town Hall @ 6:00pm for Families returning to in person learning
- March 29 - April 2: Spring Break

Illinois Junior Academy of Science Winners
The Illinois Junior Academy of Science encourages students to view science as an interdisciplinary study applicable to society and its interactions with the environment. Belmont is so happy to announce Mr. Johnson's 7th & 8th grade Science students, ANaiya Morris, Catalina Pacheco, Josselyn Cases, Nathaniel Wilson, and Tahniya Davis for being Illinois Junior Academy of Science winners!

Technology Tips from Mr. Tufan

With the help of our PLTW Computer Science Teacher, Mr. Tufan, we welcome and encourage families and community members to learn new technology tips by visiting the following links:

- How to add ad blocker extension on Google Chrome Web Browser
- How to Group Google Chrome Tabs
- How to Ungroup Google Chrome Tabs

Learn How to Use Concept SIS Student and Parent Portal

ConceptSIS has become the central hub of our teachers, parents, and students. It is the go-to point for all information, from grades, attendance, and community announcements. Now Concept has created a short video tutorial to show all of the tools and features ConceptSIS has to offer to our students and parents.

See the video tutorial HERE.
Belmont is continuing to celebrate Black History beyond the month of February and we are thrilled to share a celebration created by our Belmont students, Physical Education teacher, Coach Tate, and Character Education teachers, Mr. Williams & Mr. Putman. To watch the celebration, CLICK HERE!

Cameron Zvara

This month, Cameron Zvara amazed our Belmont students with his magic and comedy. Cameron recently performed for Belmont students via zoom in an all school assembly. He delivered an outrageous and unforgettable performance our students will not forget!

To learn more about Cameron Zvara and his performance CLICK HERE!
Mr. Cortez was born and raised here in Chicago! He grew up in the Humboldt Park neighborhood before going away to school at Monmouth College, where he graduated in 2018. He is also currently in school receiving his Master’s degree in Teacher Leadership and an endorsement in ESL.

When asked about his interest in teaching, Mr. Cortez stated: "I always wanted to be in public service but I did not know in what capacity. My parents instilled in me and my siblings that we should always find a way to better the world and one day I looked at being a teacher and fell in love with teaching."

Mr. Cortez is a big Chicago sports fan and loves to stay active in his free time. He plays in a local basketball and softball league in the city. He is also a basketball coach for a local AAU program and is a CYSP mentor at HSA Belmont.
HSA Belmont & McKinley Park’s parent book club, “Chapter Chat” is moving on with their third book!

If you are interested in joining chapter chat there is still time to join before we start a new book next month. Please email Ms. Armouti at armouti@hsamckinley.org or Ms. Culkowski at culkowski@hsabelmont.org

Lunch Distribution

Gourmet Gorilla’s student meal distribution at Belmont continues. Please come and pick up student meal boxes on Tuesdays from 9:00am - 3:00PM at door #8 on Mango st
Belmont is now enrolling students K-8 for the 2021-2022 school year. **HSA Belmont is free and open to all students**, offers full day kindergarten, and offers a Science, Engineering, and Math (STEM) emphasis. New students may enroll here: Horizon Science Academy Belmont - Enrollment

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**Chicago Covid 19 Resources**
At Horizon Science Academy Belmont our top priority is the health and safety of our families. If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to a member of our leadership team.

Serdar Kartal, Principal, kartal@hsabelmont.org
Mevla Sarancic, Assistant Principal of Academics

Covid-19 Vaccines

5 Things to Know

Safety
The safety of COVID-19 vaccines is a top priority. No steps are skipped during the clinical trial process.

How COVID-19 Vaccines Work
COVID-19 vaccines do not use a live virus and cannot give someone COVID-19.

Benefits
Getting vaccinated may help keep you from getting infected with COVID-19 and may also protect people around you.

Number of Doses Needed
The first COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) will require two shots, and everyone will have to receive both shots to get the most protection the vaccine can offer.

Availability and Cost
While supply is limited, certain groups (such as healthcare workers) will be prioritized to receive the vaccine first. The vaccine will be offered at no cost to all Chicagoans who want it as soon as larger quantities become available.

Contact Us

CdpH

Chicago.gov/covidvax
Don't forget there are plenty of ways to stay connected with what's going at at HSA - Belmont!

- Follow us on [facebook](http://www.facebook.com) and [twitter](http://www.twitter.com) for our latest news!
- Did you know Belmont has an app? Download the app for our database and ConceptSIS.
  - For Android users, [use this link](http://www.conceptsis.com/android)
  - For Apple users (including IPhones and IPads), [use this link](http://www.conceptsis.com/ios)

**Stay Connected**

*Horizon Science Academy*  
*Belmont*  