Dear Brent Bears,

As your specials teachers we have a unique opportunity to share our subjects with you year after year and watch you grow. This year has been unlike any other school year that we have had before. While the changes have meant that we have missed out on many of the routines, events and celebrations that have traditionally marked our years together, you have shown that, no matter what, you are still musicians and actors, artists and scientists, athletes and students. As your teachers, we want you to know that you’re valued for the person you are, you are loved and supported, and each you have so many unique ways to interact with your environment.

We hope that through our passion for our individual subjects, and for teaching in general, we have shown you ways that you can be engaged with your environment no matter what that environment looks like. You have demonstrated how you can make amazing artwork out of materials you found outside and at home. As scientists you have documented and studied the wildlife and natural phenomena in your own backyards. You have made music with your voices and homemade instruments and stayed fit and active in a time when getting out and moving around isn’t easy. Through all of these actions you have learned the most important lesson of all: that you can control the one thing that really matters - your own selves. No matter what form summer takes, whether it contains those things you have come to expect or not, we, your teachers, love you and we’ll be here for you.
Keep reading over the summer!!!

Enjoy your reading experience! Hence, read what you like, but also consider stepping out of your comfort zone once in a while. This can become an exciting new adventure. Try a variety of genre, and explore topics new to you. In the world of words, the sky is not your limit; you can “travel” to a different universe. You will be surprised what you will experience and discover. There are many ways to explore. Here are some suggestions.

**DC Public Library**

- **Summer Challenge 2020**
  
  Sign up, read at least 20 minutes per day, and win prizes! Please see this [flyer](#) for an overview with useful information.

- **E-Books and Audiobooks**

  E- and audio-books can be found in [Overdrive](#) and with the [Libby](#) App. Here is a short [video](#) by Elaine Pelton, Children’s Librarian at the Southeast Library, explaining how to use Overdrive.

- **Digital Resources**

  A variety of digital resources for children can be found [here](#). In addition, [ScienceFlix](#) provides articles, videos, experiments, websites and other STEM related activities, while [TrueFlix](#) focuses on history, science and geography related topics.

**Brent School Library**

- Brent’s online catalog can be found [here](#). Students can access their accounts using the their generic login information, provided by the school.

**Online Story Time**

- Enjoy an author read aloud at [KitLit TV](#).
- Explore interactive stories with the Library of Congress at [read.gov](#).
- Watch an animated storybook at [vooks.com](#).

Please contact Ms. Bettina at [bettina.schewe@k12.dc.gov](mailto:bettina.schewe@k12.dc.gov) with any questions, if you need book recommendations, or if you just want to chat about what you are reading. She will monitor her e-mail throughout the summer.