



Digital Citizen News

June 2020

Remote Learning Edition

Stay Home - Stay Safe
Protect Yourself & Others

Volume 3 : Issue 10 - June 2020



DIGITAL CITIZENS ARE
REALLY SUPER CITIZENS

DOWNLOAD & PRINT OUR JUNE POSTER



THIS NEWSLETTER CERTIFIED
100% VIRUS-FREE

BE #DIGITALCITIZENSTRONG

LET'S HAVE A SHOUT OUT TO ALL OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITIES - OPEN IN REMOTE LEARNING FORMATS

Many of the mainstream news sources are going on and on about how school is cancelled, NYS testing is cancelled, end of year events postponed or cancelled all together. We know better! School is not cancelled! Our Schools are working harder than ever! Educators, Administrators and Support Staff everywhere are transforming educational services in a way that they never anticipated.



To our food services workers providing daily meals and transportation drivers making deliveries.

**WE THANK
YOU ALL!**



To our teachers and teaching aides and assistants who are spending countless hours trying to reach each and every one of their students while still keeping in mind data security and privacy settings.

**WE THANK
YOU ALL!**



To our principals who are calling and driving by students houses to check on them because teachers are worried and haven't heard from them.

**WE THANK
YOU ALL!**



To all the students who are navigating this whole new style of learning and teaching their teachers how to use all of these new platforms.

**WE THANK
YOU ALL!**



To all the parents and caregivers who are all of a sudden finding themselves with a whole new role in their child's life.

**WE THANK
YOU ALL!**



To all the Community members who are going above and beyond to ensure that their neighbors physical, emotional, mental and digital needs are being met while bringing joy to each other.

**WE THANK
YOU ALL!**

TO ALL - STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY IN BOTH A DIGITAL AND A PHYSICAL WAY

Fighting Summer Melt using SORA by Overdrive



In a world where remote learning has taken the forefront, we cannot forget that summer vacation is right around the corner. While we look to summer vacation as time to have fun in the sun and take a break from school, students and parents should be aware of "summer-melt."

Summer-melt refers to learning lost when a student is taken out of the school environment for a pro-longed period.

To help fight summer melt, all students who receive this newsletter have a FREE subscription to SORA. Sora is your virtual library where you can access audiobooks and eBooks 24/7. You can even connect SORA to your public library!

Students can take notes, track reading progress, even get achievement badges! Books are available for all grade levels and supports all learning abilities.

You can download the SORA app through the Google Playstore, or Apple Appstore, or go to soraapp.com. Once there, find your school by entering in your zip code. If you don't know your account information, contact your school librarian.

Happy summer reading!

<http://go.gstric.org/310-sora>



IT'S ABOUT TIME TO BRAG ABOUT OUR 20-21 CALENDAR

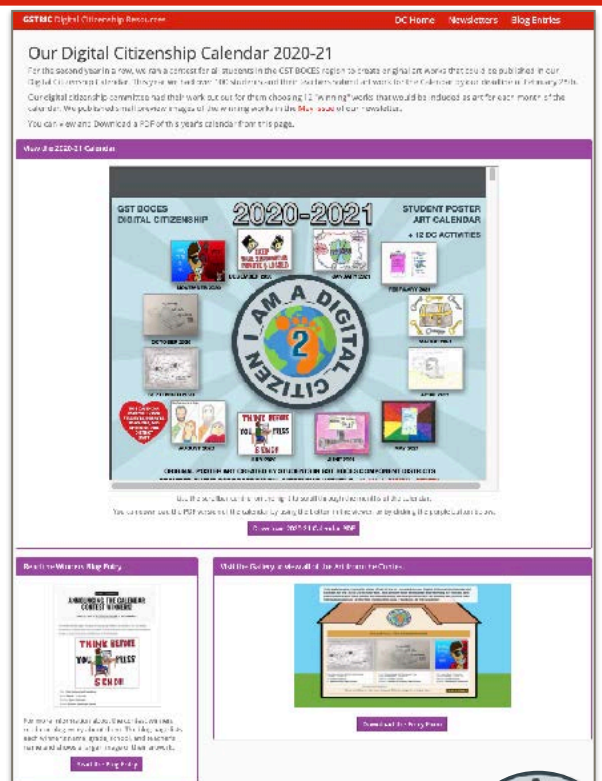
You have been hearing about it for months, and the last issue we published small previews of the winning art but we have finally released the actual calendar! You can download a PDF of it at <http://go.gstric.org/calendar2020>. Printed copies will be available during June.



You can also read more about the calendar in our blog article, and you can view all of the submitted art in our interactive gallery.

<http://go.gstric.org/310-blog>

<http://go.gstric.org/310-gallery>



SCHEDULE SCREEN-FREE TIME THIS SUMMER

parents have to be
purposeful about
finding screen-free
alternatives for kids

This summer unplug from technology and let your child just play! Here are some screen-free activities to try. Check out this website for more ideas. <http://go.gstric.org/310-active>



Go on a nature walk and look for different kinds of plants or flowers. If you see any wildlife stay safe.



Visit 3 or 4 local parks. Take pictures at each one and create a memory album.



Paint rocks with encouraging words and hide them around town for people to find.



Complete a summer reading challenge with all of your friends. Who can read the most?



Ask your local shelter what they need for the summer. Buy a few things and drop them off. Teach your kids to serve others.



Host a backyard art party for your kids and their friends! Have prizes for different categories.



Make treats for your local firefighters. Deliver them to your nearby fire station.



Try your hand at camping. Even if it is only in your backyard. It is totally ok!

Some Thoughts on the Importance of Play

“Through play, children acquire literacy, mathematical, and creative skills.

Make-believe play, in particular, has been linked to self-regulation skills, which in turn have been linked to greater academic success than IQ has. Self-regulation skills also help children with self-control and with managing stress while learning.

Moreover, if children don't learn to play as children, they aren't likely to discover its value as adults. And just think about what a dreary existence daily life will be without a playful attitude.”



Rae Pica

an education consultant specializing in the education of the whole child, children's physical activity, and the mind/body connection since 1980

Source: <http://go.gstric.org/310-raepica>



Make a DIY bird feeder. Take a toilet paper roll, spread some peanut butter on it and roll it in seed! Hang it for the birds!



Take a family bike ride on a trail you've never explored!



Plant a garden. Near the end of the summer, bring some of your extra garden produce to a food bank.

These are only a few suggestions. Get more at <http://go.gstric.org/310-active>. Fun and Learning go hand in hand. Have a great summer with your family and friends!

DIGITAL CITIZENS ARE GREAT CITIZENS



We keep ourselves safe online and we social distance when we are in person.



We do not spread viruses or fake news.



We protect our data and identities while we protect our health and others' with PPE.



We practice personal privacy and security.



We respect our friends and neighbors and communicate respectfully to everyone online and in our neighborhoods.



We make our communities better.



We are digitally and technologically literate, and we keep up with the latest news and information.



Our reputations are precious to us, so we strive to act according to best practices online and in real life.