Dear Families,

As we face a number of questions and uncertainties regarding our day-to-day lives, I wanted to reach out and provide you with some learning opportunities. As a World Language Department, we realize that one of the biggest obstacles in learning a new language is the amount of time we have being exposed to the language. We try our best throughout the school year to use the model put forth by ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) of maintaining 90% usage of the target language in the classroom. However, the problem from here is that once a student leaves our classroom, they are no longer required to hear, see or use the language in any other way. Which is why we encourage our students to do homework, study and review, and use any means necessary to connect to the content on their own outside of class time.

We are in an unprecedented moment in time, where we will not have access to our students for the next six weeks. Which leaves all of us concerned for the productivity and the connection that we have worked so hard to achieve. Because of this, the World Language Department has tried to come together to compile a list of resources beyond our current text series that will allow our student to connect to the language in their own way and will hopefully allow each individual an opportunity to maintain the connections that they have worked so hard to establish. We have a number of different approaches that anyone can take to maintain and personalize their connection. I have the various ideas linked below for you with a short description of each of them.

1. [www.vhlcentral.com](http://www.vhlcentral.com) – this is our online textbook, and there are multiple different activities for listening, reading and writing. There are also numerous tutorials and resources that can be used to reconnect and help solidify understanding to previous content. We would like to emphasize that we do not want your student working beyond the current concepts we have been working on since we do not know how far we will get in the remainder of this school year and that we will be working on adjusting our curriculum once we know more.

2. [www.conjuguemos.com](http://www.conjuguemos.com) – this is a website with numerous vocabulary and grammar based activities designed for students of multiple different languages.

3. [www.quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com) – this should be a website that is very familiar to your student since many of us within the WL department have our own sets created to help them study and prepare for the content within our curriculum. However, there are also countless other study sets that are already made and will allow everyone an opportunity to review and practice materials that we have already covered.

4. [www.lansberrylanguage.com](http://www.lansberrylanguage.com) – this is a website with numerous links to other websites and resources.

5. [www.thefablecottage.com](http://www.thefablecottage.com) – this is a website with a wide variety of fairy tales that have been translated into numerous languages.

6. <http://www.amazingeducationalresources.com/> - this is a compilation of resources with all kinds of different styles of activities for all students.

7. [Cultural Plunge Activities](file:///C:\Users\gardnerm\Desktop\WL%20Cultural%20Plunge.doc) – these are a series of activities that are designed for you to connect to your target language in a new (and hopefully exciting) way. There are descriptions of each of activity within the document attached.

8. [www.ixl.com](http://www.ixl.com) – This is a website that many of you have seen before in the primary levels of our schools, however, for the Spanish students, they have added some very elementary levels of Spanish that can be used to help them practice.

9. Read news articles about the current state of our environment in Spanish at [THIS](https://europeamedia.es/europea-radio/europea-radio/naturaleza-global) website.

10. Visit and explore Digital Museums of Hispanic Culture at [THIS](https://spark.adobe.com/page/76vUwqOYNxnz5/?fbclid=IwAR3q2BwWpQgQcWcT0l9b3P-qla3Cucs2xsMcz8Rj4llryNOhQ3IrGuNMS3g) website.

11. If you enjoy Ted Talks, [THIS](https://aprendemosjuntos.elpais.com/) is a website that essentially offers the same thing, only with the language translated into Spanish.

12. Podcasts – [THIS](https://theculturetrip.com/europe/spain/articles/the-best-spanish-podcasts-you-need-to-listen-to/?fbclid=IwAR2tRSdD9G5aXln5bXIWK2HAg4h7clbsV3cjpsv7CP8GumG8QkLcMmfsbT4) is a website with a number of different podcasts that you can feel to listen to in Spanish. Choose something that sounds interesting to you and something that you’re going to be willing to give your full attention.

I hope that you can use some of these resources over the course of the next few weeks to find new and unique ways of continuing to use your target language. If, at any point along the way, you have questions about something that you are seeing or something that you are working on, please do not hesitate to reach out and email me. I hope to see you all in a few weeks and get back on track to finish this school year strong.

Sincerely,

(Profe) Michael Gardner