

Dear colleagues

I would like to thank you all for your efforts and dedication during this unprecedented time of COVID19. This is a once in a lifetime event - there hasn't been anything like this since 1918. When suddenly we had to shift to new mode of education, many of you immediately started to look at how you could move to online classes. A lot of teachers were sharing resources, materials and ideas. The response from you when there was a period of uncertainty was magnificent.

When you started teaching online for the first time, the first thing you must have missed is the chatter of your physical classroom. Or maybe the hushed breath, ever so subtle, when you enter the class and change the dynamics, the air pressure even. You might have missed the quicksilver comedy; the way words twist into grins and spill out as jokes. When you teach online, try to find ways to be present for your students. Your presence is all that many of them need and this does not change if you are teaching from your living room. Try to connect.

Through feedback received from parents and students, I am happy that most of them are satisfied and feel that teachers are doing an amazing job. The parents have all the more realized now importance of teachers. They have seen in their children the obedience for teachers which as a parent they could not see for themselves. Some of them have even requested for a call from teachers just to ask how they are doing. I would also appreciate if all of you can take responsibility of calling just 10 students daily, talking to them, asking for any help in studies and guiding them for completion of their pending work. Believe me they will do it on priority after getting your calls. Even more so when all this is over and everything returns to normal, they will realize that teachers will be there ready to do the other transition, which is about getting back to normal schooling and filling in any gaps over what we have gone through.

I am confident that during this academic break, children will be stress free and you will all emerge as a better learner with better techniques of teaching online. Students want your videos/audios and not YouTube links as they feel connected to you when you teach them. Hope that all of you will share with each other better ways to become the best team who always sets examples for others to follow.

Wishing you all the best,

Sincerely yours

Sunita Madaan