

March, 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Dear students of class 6b,

Wow, it's been a long time since I have seen and talked to you. I am wondering how you are and what you are doing. The best part of teaching is getting to know and understand you and finding out about your interests, what you would like to learn helping you learning about the world. So today I am writing this letter to tell you a bit about my life during this time of social distancing and also to ask you about how things are going. Life has changed a lot in the past few weeks. Social distancing and self-isolation measures are very challenging. Difficult times often bring out the best in people. My heroes are the doctors and nurses but also the many people who are trying to keep our life going like the cashiers in the supermarkets or the many people who deliver packages. Is there someone you admire right now? Schools are closed, students have to work from home. One of the consequences of social distancing is that all of a sudden we have more time on our hands. I try to use time productively. I have set up a daily routine. In the morning after waking up I always take some time on my yoga mat to stretch out and work out for a bit. I really can recommend that to you also! After that I have some healthy breakfast. I love to eat oatmeal with fruits and yogurt in the morning. Maybe you can try this tomorrow morning or make some nice and healthy breakfast for your parents or siblings. After that, I go to my desk and work for some hours. I love to sit there because everything is so clean and tidy right now. I was cleaning so much during the last time and I organized a lot of my papers and school stuff. Maybe you can also clean your things if you haven't done it yet. What does your day look like? How do you keep busy and motivated? What bugs you the most? What do you do with this spare time? One idea is to set up a family project together like a family game night when you play games together or challenge someone to a game of chess or a videogame. Maybe you could teach your parents how to play Fortnite. For the ones who play Fortnite a lot I have a special task: Please watch some videos about Fortnite on youtube in English! Try to understand every word and if you don't know a special word then look it up! You can just type the word you don't understand in google and after that word you could write

"deutsche Übersetzung" and you will get the translation. For the ones who don't play Fortnite, you can watch some other tutorials on youtube in English! I did so as well! I tried to draw a little bit as you can see at the attachment. I also watch some dance workouts on youtube in English and practice some new dance moves. Whatever you are interested just look for it and try it out! Of course you should also watch a movie in English. What about watching Harry Potter in English?

Not being able to meet up with friends is really hard. But there are so many ways of communicating like Facetime, Instagram, Facebook, Skype. But you know what? I really just like to call my friends. What about you? How are you keeping in touch with your friends? I usually go to the gym several times a week. Since that is no longer possible I try to get a bit of exercise by going for runs in the park or go to the supermarket with my skateboard. I always do that alone or just together with my boyfriend. Sometimes after a workout we try to meditate. That helps to calm down and relax. For many people this is a really stressful time. Do you do anything to relax and have some down time? How do you keep fit? Can you still do your favourite sport at home? I also started listening to some podcasts. Do you better like watching films or listening to podcasts? Do you have a favourite TV show or podcast? I'd love to hear about your favourites right now and why you like them.

I haven't had a lot of time for reading books and I didn't really like it when I was younger but during this time I like to read so many books. What about you? Do you read books during this time? Tell me about books you love. Or do you prefer comics or graphic novels? What are you into? Do you have time to spend on your hobby? Are you learning something new? And you know what? I really miss teaching and seeing and working with you. We've set up so many tasks on our "Brüder-Grime-Schule-Homepage" and hope you'll learn a lot doing the tasks we assign. I welcome your feedback on the tasks or even ideas for tasks you'd like to do. How do you like doing e-learning? Do your parents or brothers and sisters help you with your homework? Do you miss school, your classmates and teachers yet?

I also have to tell you something really important!! Last week we put out all the things out of our classroom! Finally we will have a nice room when you are back! I am so excited when we will make it nice! I took some pictures for you! What do you say?

Now, it's your turn. Please write a letter to me about yourself and how you are doing. Tell me about the biggest changes in your life, about a typical day in your "new" life, about what you do with all your spare time alone or with your family. I'd love to hear how you keep in touch with your friends and how you stay calm and focused, what you do to relax and have fun. It would also be interesting for me to hear if you follow the news about the corona virus and how it is spreading. There are groups of young people who are helping others, like doing the shopping or walking dogs. Are you doing anything like that? And what do you find hardest? Is there anything that you find really surprising about this situation? I'm very interested in hearing about you, so please write back. Use my letter to get help with expressions and ideas. You can send it as an e-mail. If you want, you can include photos. As you can see in the attachment, I have got a little photo surprise for you 😊 Can't wait to hear from you!

Stay safe and happy and at home.

Yours,

Mrs Melcher





