Thank you to all the essential workers in our community!!

Mrs. King and Mrs. Lauten's Class
5th Grade- Eagle Elementary School
Jose's Letter

Dear Grocery Store worker,

First, I want to say, thank you for working in times like these. It is people like you who help us deal with new viruses, by staying at your work, so that people can have food.

When I was sitting here writing this, I had a thought. Doctors and scientists are trying to find cures for viruses, but grocery stores are making sure their community has food. I thought if this is the case, grocery store workers are almost important as doctors.

If you have time, please reply via email to one of my teachers and they will make sure I get it. One of their emails is drking@pmschools.org.

Sincerely,

Jose

Response from the Costco General Manager:

Dear Jose,

Thank you for your letter! It was so nice of you to send it. I have posted it on our communication board at work. All of my employees have loved stopping by to read it.

At Costco we are not finding a cure for the virus but there are ways in which we have changed our business to make sure that all of our members that shop with us are safe. Some of those ways are as follows.

* We only allow 25 members in at a time so the building does not get over crowded.

* We widened our aisles so members have more room to shop.

* We have a space in between every register we open to allow members proper distancing.

* We have employees cleaning all day long throughout the building to make sure what they touch is clean.

* We wear masks and we have glass partitions on all the registers.

With all these changes, we have been happy to be able to provide food to families during this challenging time. I wish you and your classmates a wonderful end of the year!

Cheryll Serio, General Manager
Holbrook #230
Andre's Letter

Dear grocery worker,

I appreciate that you are doing your job during this corona virus pandemic. Because during this pandemic people are fighting for toilet paper and when you see them fighting you stop them. So that’s why I appreciate you doing your job.

If you have time please reply via email to one of my teachers and they will make sure I get it. Choose one of my teachers to reply to rlauten@pmschools.org or drking@pmschools.org

Sincerely,
Andre

Response

Hello Andre!

I just wanted to say thank you for being so appreciative! Toilet paper sure is a problem these days. Thankfully, I haven't seen anyone fighting over any, but if I did, I would definitely stop them. Thank you for your letter. I hope you, your family, your classmates, and teachers all stay safe during this time.

Sincerely,
Stacey
Stop & Shop Holbrook #563
Brandon's Letter

Dear Grocery worker,

I appreciate, what you are doing for us, and the work you do. I hope you are feeling great for helping us. Thanks for working around this time. I also thank you for risking your life for us. I hope you are feeling good and not having problems.

If you have time, please reply to one of my teachers and tell me how it feels for you at this time.

Drking@pmschools.org

From Brandon

Response:

Hello Brandon!

I just wanted to say thank you for your letter. It was very sweet of you. Thank you for being appreciative of what we are doing at this time. It is definitely not something that is easy to work through, but your kind words help! I hope you, your family, classmates, and teachers stay safe through all of this.

Sincerely,
Stacey
Stop & Shop Holbrook #563
Dominic's Letter
Dear Medford Pastaria,

Thank you for staying open so my mom can get pizza kits during this corona virus pandemic. We appreciate your hard work. The pizza kits made me, and my family spend time eating together, and cooking together. It tasted good and I ate 6 slices.

If you have time, please reply via email to one of my teachers and explain to me your experiences during this time, and they will make sure I get it. Her email is rlauten@pmschools.org.

Sincerely,
Dominic

Response from Mr. Ficarra, the owner of Medford Pastaria:

Dear Dominic and family,
I was so happy to hear that you and your family enjoyed making the pizza from our kit. Between 12 – 6 pm we are busier than ever. After 6 pm it is more quiet now because people are staying at home with their families. I have been making 2,000 premade meals per day. This is good for two reasons. It keeps people employed during this time. The other reason is that we donate to hospitals any meals we don’t sell that day. We are offering 10 dinners for only $50 as our way of giving back to the community during these hard times. When things get back to normal, if you go back to school, I would like to buy you and your whole class a slice of pizza. If not, please come in with your mom and introduce yourself to me. I’d like to shake your hand and treat you to a slice and a soda.
Sincerely,
John Ficarra, owner
Step 1: Roll out the dough

Step 2: Put the sauce on the dough.

Step 3: Sprinkle the cheese.

Step 4: Cook it and get ready to eat!
Alex's Letter

Dear Police Officer,

I hope you and your family are safe and healthy. I wanted to thank you for going to work every day to keep my friends and family safe. I understand how hard it is to be a police officer. My dad is a police officer and he also has to go to work every day during this time. I hope that you can keep away from lots of crowds, and be safe during this pandemic.
If you have time, please reply to my teacher via email, and they will make sure that I get it. My teacher’s email is rlauten@pmschools.org.

Thank you,
Alex

Response:

Dear Alex,

Thank you for taking the time to write your letter. I am a police officer in the 3rd precinct in Nassau County. Working during this pandemic is definitely different than before. To keep ourselves and our community safe, we wear masks and gloves and try to a safe distance away from one another. Surprisingly, we have been responding to less calls, which means people are staying home and doing their part to keep everyone safe. Businesses and people in our community in the third precinct have been showing their appreciation towards their local first responders. Every day business owners bring food by the precinct for the officers. Knowing we are respected and appreciated makes coming to work a little easier at this time.

Good luck with school and keep working hard.

From,
Officer Liz
Dear Alex,

Thank you so much for your letter! My name is Amanda, I work as a police officer with Mrs. King's daughter, so she was able to help me be part of this with you and your class. I am keeping away from crowds as much as possible, except for when we have to go near them at work, but I always make sure to wash my hands or use sanitizer after any of those situations. Tell your dad thank you for going to work every day too! It must be hard for him and you to have to be away during this time, but I am sure he is doing his best job every day to keep you all safe as well and to make sure you guys get to have lots of fun and play when he is home. I hope you are enjoying the time home, and doing well in school with these new and interesting online classes. Be safe and do good!

Sincerely,
Officer Amanda
Adam's Letter

Dear Police Officer,

Thank you for doing your job during this covid-19 time. I appreciate that you are helping people and protecting us to feel safe while we stay home to stop the spread. Thank you and I'm am sorry you can't be with your family more, but keep doing your job and stay safe.

If you have time, please reply via email to one of my teachers.
rlauten@pmschools.org

Sincerely,
Adam

Response:

Adam,

Thanks for the taking the time to write me a letter! It is small gestures such as this that provide a good example of what it means to be a caring and thoughtful individual. My name is Mike and I am a Police officer assigned to the 3rd Precinct Nassau County Police Department where I have been for the last 6 years. I really enjoy my job, particularly the interaction the public and the amazing people I meet every day. In recent times, the world has been challenged with a pandemic response, and it is first responders such as Police Officers and Medical Technicians that help all the people who are sick and that need assistance. In light of the continuous support we have provided our community, family and peer support networks have been the most important part of getting through it all. In addition to all the help and support from families and all the first responders, a lot of local businesses have been extra kind and extra generous and provided us with many supplies and donations that helped keep our efforts going. It is this type of teamwork that sets a good example for others to follow and serves as a model practice in other times of need. Thanks for doing your part to check up on us first responders and help brighten our day by showing appreciation for our efforts. Keep up the good work in school and always make sure to check up on your family, friends, and others around you. A simple word or helping hand goes along way and could be the difference between a good and bad day. Stay safe and enjoy your class!

Sincerely,
Police Officer Mike
Aaron's Letter:
Dear Healthcare Provider,

Thank you for taking care of the people who have coronavirus and for doing everything you can to keep them alive and healthy. You guys are so brave because you guys are putting others before yourself. You could catch the virus by being near the patient, but you still go near the patient anyways to make sure they are doing well. You guys are heroes to me. You guys also help people who don’t have the virus by telling us some necessary steps we can take to prevent ourselves from catching the virus, and by telling us the effects of the virus so we could spot them right away and call the hospital. I appreciate everything you guys do, and thank you. If you have time, please respond via email to one of my teachers and they will make sure I get it, drking@pmschools.org

Sincerely,
Aaron

Response:
Good Morning,

I wanted to extend my heartfelt thank you to you, Aaron and your teachers that have thought of us who are working on the frontlines during this medical crisis.

It is very nice to know that you and your fellow students have taken the time to think of all the healthcare workers at Mather. I know this is also hard on you and your family, but together we will be successful in fighting this disease. Keep studying and being such a wonderful young man who thinks of others. Keep yourself busy and remember this will be over soon and your teachers will be there to help you all.

They are also heroes in this crisis. Thank you again

Maggie Platt
Miguelina Platt, MSN, RN, CRN
Clinical Instructor
Nursing Professional Development
Mather Hospital
Nicole's letter:

Dear Healthcare Provider,

Thank you for going to work every day. To me you are a superhero. I could never do anything like you do. I hope you and your family are doing well. Here are some words of encouragement to cheer you up though these tough times. You got this, you go, you’re awesome, you rock, you’re super cool, wow I’m blown away with how amazing you are. I know how tough it is to go to work because my mom, my aunt, and my friends parents are health care workers also so I know how tough it is. But it’s ok will all get through this together. I know we can’t convince the whole world to stay home but you should know that I’m making sure that my family and friends are staying home. We may not be able to get the whole world to stay home but at least a small part of us is a start. I would love to hear back from you so I will include my teachers email address’s if you would like to respond. I truly understand if you cannot respond I know how busy you must be. It will be alright we will all make this through together. I really appreciate all of your hard work and effort to make people better and save lives. Remember to take time for yourself and get some rest as it is very important for your own health as well.

Sincerely,

Nicole

Response from a registered nurse working with Covid patients:

Dear Nicole,

Thank you very much for your many words of encouragement, with family in healthcare you know how difficult the last few weeks have been on us, but your upbeat spirit, and commitment to doing what’s right is exactly what is going to pull us all through. This virus has dramatically affected the hospital where I work like many others here in NY, but our hallways are filled with pictures and letters similar to yours, my coworkers and I read them every day as we report to our units and they really do help. Again thank you for the letter it meant a lot, hopefully if we all do our part we can get back to life, as we knew it. So stay safe, maintain social distance, wash your hands, and don’t touch your face!

Thank you,

Brendan Condon, RN
**Brian's letter:**

Dear Hospital Worker,

I would like to Thank You for your hard work and dedication during the Corona Virus Pandemic.

I have seen the news and am aware of all the sacrifices you are making to take care of your patients and their families. My neighbor is in the hospital fighting the virus and his family gives us daily updates and always says that the hospital staff is amazing, and they are so grateful for that.

I hope the day comes soon that you can take some time off and spend time with your family.

If you have time, please reply via email to one of my teachers and explain to me your experience during this time, and they will make sure I get it. You can send your email to drking@pmschools.org.

Sincerely,

Brian

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**A very interesting response for Brian:**

Dear Brian,

Thank you for your letter. We are the Environmental Services Department we play a very important part in the Covid-19 pandemic. Our department is responsible for all the cleaning and sanitizing of the hospital. Our team goes into the rooms and sanitizes everything. Also before and after a room is thoroughly cleaned we use a machine called TRU-D, this machine is placed in the room to kill all the virus in the room. (It looks like something from outer space). Mather hospital was the only Hospital on Long island that had this machine before the Covid-19 started we have three machines one stays in the Emergency Department and the other two are utilized for the rest of the hospital. We are also responsible for garbage’s, linen’s clean and dirty, Confidential waste, commodes for patients, cleaning of offices, moves in the hospital, supplying soap, Purell sanitizer, and keeping track of all the discharges and what rooms were cleaned and sanitized. Our team goes into a room with all there PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) just like a nurse does they probably spend the most time in the rooms then anyone to assure everything is clean and sanitized correctly for the patients and the next patient that will be admitted to the room. We have an amazing team to help with the fight of Covid-19. So, We thank you for your letter and we hope and pray that all of this will end soon and that all that is suffering from this terrible virus is healed. Stay safe and stay home and enjoy your families. I am enclosing a picture of our TRU-D machine for you to see.

Sincerely,

Frank Christiano and The Environmental Services Department
Liz's Letter:

Dear doctors,

I am grateful that you work hard during this Corona Virus Pandemic. I thank you for taking care of us. My cousins work at hospitals and they tell my family about the struggles and challenges. I appreciate that all doctors at every hospital on the planet.

From my personal experience, I know how difficult it is for them, because I have family that work over night, to take care of many patients, and they are risk of catching the virus as well. Also, I have a family member who is being taken care of at the hospital. This family member is very sick, and I appreciate the help from all the doctors and nurses around.

If you have time, please reply via email to one of my teachers and explain to me your experiences during this time, and they will make sure I get it. My teacher’s email is drking@pmschools.org

Sincerely,

Elizabeth

Response:

Hi Elizabeth!

Thank you for your kind and thoughtful letter to all of us healthcare workers! All the kind and loving words and pictures we have received from kids like you have brightened our day and kept us motivated to keep doing our best every day to help people. Thank you for the smile you brought us. I am sorry to hear that your family member is sick in the hospital and I hope they get well soon. I know they must be in good hands because we all are fighting so hard to make people healthy and get them feeling better and back home to their families. We have had thousands of Corona virus patients discharged home from my hospital system now. At my hospital when a patient gets discharged to go home to their family, we play the song, “Here Comes the Sun,” and line up and clap for the patient to celebrate their recover. Thank you for staying home to help us! Stay healthy and take care.

Jill,
Plainview Hospital
Jenny's Letter:

Dear Doctors and Nurses,

Thank you all for being so brave, for manning the front lines every day and for all the sacrifices you have made. For helping others, the lives you have saved and for those who are sick and dying too. Without all of you, what would we do. Now when times are worst of all, hat off to all of you for standing tall.

If you have time, please reply via email to one of my teachers and they will make sure I get it. rlauten@pmschools.org

Sincerely,

Jenny

Response:

Hello,

I received a note today from Jenny.

Please tell Jenny, thank you so much for sending me such a beautiful letter.

It made my day 😊

Thank you again,

Candice

Candice Fella BSN, RN-BC, WCC

Mather Hospital
Daniela's Letter:

Dear Doctors,

I heard you are saving lives in the hospital and you are there every day being a superhero for people that have Covid-19. You are heroes for people because you are saving their lives. You are trying to do your best so they don't get that virus. By the way my uncle works in a hospital and I call him and he says that he is ok. My heart shines because you know he works in the hospital and I am worried. If you have time, please reply via email to one of my teachers and they will make sure I get it. One of their emails is drking@pmschools.org

Sincerely,
Daniela

Response:

Dear Daniela,

Thank you for your wonderful letter. It made my heart shine too. I am glad your uncle is ok. This is a challenging time for everybody. You can be a superhero too by keeping up with your school work even though you are home and remember to WASH YOUR HANDS and try not to touch your face. Thank you again for your wonderful letter. Stay safe.

Sincerely,
&
Dr. Susan Emanuele &
Isabella's Letter:
Dear hospital worker,

Thank you for your amazing help during this time. I appreciate that you are risking your life for other citizens that are very sick. You’re doing great! My favorite thing about you guys is that even if a patient has the virus, you’re always brave and help them risking your life to save others. Please stay safe and be careful! You could respond to this letter by emailing one of my teachers, drking@pmschools.org

Sincerely,
Isabella

Response:
Hello Isabella,

Thank you very much for your letter of support. I work in the Emergency Department and we enjoy taking care of patients that are sick. Please keep us in your prayers and continue to stay safe.

Please wash your hands very well for 20 seconds or for 2 Happy Birthday songs several times a day.

Sincerely

Marina Grennen, MSN, RN, CEN
Clinical Instructor Emergency Department Department
Ronald's Letter:

Dear Healthcare Provider,

Thank you for all the help you are providing us. While you guys are taking care of the people who have caught the Corona Virus, we are all staying inside during quarantine and doing fun activities. What do you do while taking care of the of the people, do you bring them food or accompany them? If you have time, please reply via email to one of my teachers and they will make sure I get it - rlauten@pmschools.org

Sincerely,
Ronald

Response:

Hi Ronald,

Thank you for your lovely letter. I hope that you are enjoying online school.

I am glad that you are staying inside during the quarantine and doing fun activities. Warm weather is coming and hopefully soon everyone can be out and playing again.

I assist the patients with many activities, bring them food and medications. We have sent a lot of patients back to their homes and they are doing well.

Stay well and thanks again for your letter.

Colleen Reale RN, CEN, ASC-BC
Stroke Performance Improvement RN
Hospital Quality
Mather Hospital
Gia’s Letter:

Dear Healthcare provider,

I appreciate everything you are doing during this pandemic of Coronavirus; by helping patients feel better and giving them the proper treatment they need. I personally would like to thank two superheroes in my life that go to work each and every day to care for Covid-19 patients. These two very special superheroes are my mom who is a Nurse, and my dad who is a MRI Technologist. I also want to thank all of my Mom and Dad’s co-workers as well. I would like them all to know that what they are doing is truly amazing. I want to thank them for how each and every day they help these patients to get stronger and feel better to be able to go home to their families. I truly look up to all of you superheroes and one day I hope to be a superhero Nurse in scrubs, taking care of people, and putting smiles on their faces, just like you all are doing. If you would like to respond to my letter, please email my teacher Mrs. Lauten at rlauten@pmschools.org.

Sincerely,
Gia

Response:

Hi Gia,

The staff on 2East were happy to read your letter. It made everyone smile. I sent you a photo of us to say thank you !!

Work hard in school and always remember to be kind and compassionate to all people. You will make a great nurse some day !! I hope you and your family are healthy and safe!

Jeanne Brennan MSN,RN –BC,CNL
Nurse Manager
2 East, 2 East Bariatrics
Mather Hospital
Sofia's Letter:

Dear Nurses,

I hope you are doing well. Also thank you for being there in these bad times and thank you for working late at night. Also thank you for doing all you can do. Stay safe. Please respond by emailing my teacher. Her email is rlauten@pmschools.org.

From,
Sofia

Response:

Hi Sofia-

Thank you for taking the time to send us your kind email. The nurses are doing well at Mather, it has been tough, but we are tougher :) . We are all looking forward to getting all of our patients healthy and discharged so that we can all enjoy our summer. Stay healthy and safe.
All my best.

Laura Marshak
Quality Management RN
Mather Hospital
Kenny's Letter:

Dear Doctor,

I appreciate you because you are taking care of the people that have the corona virus and you are risking your life to help them and find the cure for them. I know it's hard for you, and for your family to see you work during this rough time. I know everything will get better in a few days. Believe in God that everything will get better, you will help everyone, and everyone will give you thanks because of what you did for them. This corona virus has affected one of my cousins, but he is better now thanks to you and thanks to God. I know it's hard because our lives have changed completely. If you have time, please reply via email to one of my teachers and they will make sure I get it.

My teacher's email is rlauten@pmschools.org.

From,
Kenny

Response from two doctors with a picture included!

Dear Kenny,

Thank you so much for your letter! It & brightened up our day. We are sorry & to hear your cousin was sick, but & happy he is doing much better! & We hope that everything gets back & to normal soon too! Thank you as & well Kenny for staying home for us & so we can help all the patients 😊 Remember to stay safe and healthy! &

From, &
Dr. Sokol and Dr. Schiller &
Gurneet's Letter:

Dear Healthcare Provider,
Thanks for staying in the hospitals more hours than usual and staying away from your own families too. You help others to get better and sometimes do not even think about yourselves. If you have time can you please write back via email to one of my teachers, drking@pmschools.org.
From,
Gurneet
Mrs. King and Mrs. Lauten's fifth grade class, Eagle Elementary School.

Response:

Hi Gurneet,

Thank you so much for being so kind and thinking of me. The aspect of my job changed to include an hour of hazmat prep before an hour hazmat clean up after and wearing a double mask for 13 hours. It makes it hard to breathe. I am so proud to a NP and never give up even under these circumstances. I love helping people.

Maureen Nofi,
Nurse Practitioner
Ahria's letter to someone she knew:

Dear Jillian,
Thank you for your sacrifices. You are working hard during this pandemic. Your love, dedication, and courage deserves our deepest gratitude for caring and saving thousands of lives through this. I am sure all patients' families are happy to have you take care of their loved ones and appreciated all you're doing. Again, thank you.
From,
Ahria
Eagle Elementary

Response from a worker in a nursing home:

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your kind words. During this time is is hard for all staff and our residents, they miss their families and being able to do recreation and trips. As a C.N.A. you build a relationship with the residents and families. They are very happy to know you are taking such good care of their mom or dad. We do daily facetimes and phone calls, and we show them pictures so they can keep in touch with their families. This will not be forever, so we need to keep strong and stay home, and stay positive. This too shall pass!
Anthony's Letter:

Dear Healthcare Provider,

Thank you so much for helping other people in need and dedicating your time and patience. You are basically risking your life for others. I really appreciate your care and courage. This type of virus is a historical challenge. I appreciate the effort and work that you’ve done for us. I really hope this virus is cured soon, so you guys can rest. Not all heroes wear capes. If you have time, please reply via email to one of my teachers and explain to me your experiences during this time, and they will make sure I get it. My teachers’ email addresses are drking@pmschool.org or rlauten@pmschools.org.

Sincerely, Anthony
Mrs. King and Mrs. Lauten's Fifth Grade Class
Eagle Elementary School, Medford

Response:

Hi Anthony,

Thank you for your kind words. Yes, it has been a very difficult time as a Nurse practitioner. My job has changed in so many ways not only am I working several more hours, but I am wearing gear that I have never worn before. I try to care for my Patients but the loss from this terrible virus and the heartache for families is unmeasurable... I have been in this field for over 25 years and this year has been my most challenging. I have to say I am doing my best for my Patients and families to do what I am not only trained to do but love to do, that is help people. This career is not a choice it is a blessing a calling and though it is more difficult right now I am honored to be part of such an amazing group of health care professionals. We do our job we do it with empathy we give 100 percent we don’t ask for more money we do it because this is what we do...

Thank you
Samantha Undari-Schwartz NP
Daniel's Letter:

Dear hospital worker,

I hope you are doing well, and I hope you can save people in a lot of need. The people that have the Coronavirus need you and I hope everyone gets better. I wish we all could do stuff again and have school again and sleepovers. Thank you for trying your best to fix the virus. Please respond to my teacher. Her email is rlauten@pmschools.org.

From,
Daniel

Response:

Dear Daniel,

Thank you for your kind words. Everyone here at Plainview Hospital appreciates you and your big heart. Please know we will continue working our hardest to fight the virus. We hope that you and your school mates will be back to your normal and fun activities soon.

All the best,
Jayson White
Plainview Hospital
**Christopher's Letter:**

Dear doctors,

I really appreciate you keeping us safe and secure during the Coronavirus. Make sure that you don't give up. You got this! Could you tell me some of the things you have to do during this time? Please respond to my letter by emailing my teacher. Her email is rlauten@pmschools.org.

Sincerely,
Christopher
Mrs. King
/Mrs. Lauten’s Fifth Grade Class
Eagle Elementary

**Response:**

Dear Chris,

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to a young boy like you, that you have acknowledged and appreciated healthcare professionals like me who are on the frontline during this unprecedented crisis. As a Registered Nurse in the Trauma Surgical Intensive Care Unit at Nassau University Medical Center, it is my dedication and commitment to put myself in the path during this pandemic to save patient's lives and those who are the most vulnerable & populations fighting Covid 19.

Let us keep on praying as this is our strong weapon. & We are in this together and this too shall pass. I wish you, your classmates, teachers and loved ones & a good health and to stay safe always.

Sincerely, &
Jesse G. Bacareza, RN &
TRAUMA SICU &
Nathan's Letter:

Dear health care provider,
Thank you for risking your lives for us. You guys are doing amazing on keeping us safe during this pandemic and we support you with everything you do for us. Thank you for helping us and the state of New York and everyone in the states. Thank you for your work on helping us with the pandemic and trying to make it better and trying your best to find a cure to stop this. This pandemic has changed the earth and it is one of the worst virus I have been through. I don't like this virus because we can't really talk to friends in school or hang out with them and playing outside with them. I don't like this virus because how many people have it and how you guys are trying your best to try to prevent the spread of this virus. You guys are doing amazing on doing that. This pandemic has affected my family on my mother side we lost someone. If you have the time, please reply via email drking@pmschools.org
Sincerely,
Nathan

Response:

Dear Nathan,

Thank you so much for your beautiful letter. It is wonderful that you understand how difficult it can be to work in a hospital, many adults do not understand that. All the people who work at Mather Hospital are committed to helping our patients. Things will get better, we all will learn from this experience and be able to take on new challenges. Your job is to keep up with your school assignments so maybe we can work together some day. We will never have enough compassionate people like you.

Sincerely,
Joseph M. Carrucciu MD
Mather Hospital
Northwell Health
Thank you to the many people who responded to our letters! We appreciate you!

Mrs. King and Mrs. Lauten's 5th Grade Class