



## Teacher Highlight: Ms. Felice Dougherty, Grade 2

*Teachers, students and parents across the world have been transitioning to online learning. Moms and dads have found themselves as homeschool parents, whether they wanted to be or not, and teachers have had to rise to the occasion as distance learning educators. Our ICS grade 2 teacher, Ms. Felice shares her experience with online learning, her tips for teaching young kids online, and tools that help along the way.*

### **Q: What have you enjoyed the most about teaching online?**

I am really enjoying the learning curve. With very little time we had to figure out how to do this effectively and I appreciate the challenge of this. What I really love though is working with students and parents to solve problems as they arise. I want everyone to have a pleasant experience.

### **Q: How do you motivate learners in an online class?**

My team and I give feedback as quickly as possible. It gives a student the feeling that someone is out there and cares about their work. I also make lessons entertaining by editing them with iMovie. I am definitely not afraid to be silly on camera.

### **Q: What adjustments have you had to make to content/pedagogy when designing and delivering an online course?**

Everything has had to change. The “why” stays the same. The “how” and the “what” is entirely different. At school kids have access to the same things. At home, everyone has a different reality. Some might have slow internet, some might have both parents at work. Not everyone has equitable access to resources so you have to take everything into consideration.

### **Q: What are your best tips for teaching online?**

Less is more. Meaning, keep it simple, keep video explanations short. Be flexible about how it’s happening and give multiple days for assignments. Feedback is critical during online learning, so make sure to give timely feedback on Seesaw or Google Classroom posts. Try to give plans for the week instead of daily plans so that kids can work at their own pace. We don’t know what kids are dealing with at home right now so it’s important not to overwhelm them. My last advice is, don’t be afraid to receive feedback from parents and students because we need to know what working and what’s not.

### **Q: What kinds of tools are you using?**

Google suites is my go to. If it’s a google product I’m all for it.

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