






Technology Tools to Enhance School-Home Communication


Remind	Communicate with Parents	Classroom Application
 <p>Free</p>	Website, Chrome, iOS	Remind is a web-based communication tool that allows teachers to send immediate, up-to-date information to an entire class or small groups. Messages can be sent via text message to anyone with a text-message-capable mobile phone. Teachers can enable a new feature that allows parents to communicate back with teachers.
	Tutorial: https://goo.gl/hUog34	
	Access: https://www.remind.com/	
For more information about classroom applications visit: https://www.commonsense.org/education/website/remind		

Seesaw: The Learning Journal	Share Student Work	Classroom Application
 <p>Free, Cost</p>	iOS, Android, Kindle, Chrome, Website	Students can showcase their work in the classroom through this digital portfolio. Teachers can easily share students' work with parents in multiple ways such as pictures and videos. Seesaw also allows for interactive communication. Parents can message teachers privately through the tool. Translation is available through device language settings.
	Tutorial: https://goo.gl/cmecZZ	
	Access: https://web.seesaw.me	
For more information about classroom applications visit: https://www.commonsense.org/education/app/seesaw-the-learning-journal		

ThinkWave Educator	Update on Student Work	Classroom Application
 <p>Free, Cost</p>	Website	ThinkWave is an online gradebook that allows teachers to effectively keep the conversation going with parents about student performance. Teachers can manage content, communication, attendance and student progress through this web based tool. Send home weekly progress reports or classroom newsletters through the two-way messaging capability.
	Tutorial: https://goo.gl/6pPJQG	
	Access: https://www.thinkwave.com	
For more information about classroom applications visit: https://www.commonsense.org/education/website/thinkwave-educator		

<p>Edublogs</p>  <p>Free, Cost</p>	Engage Parents in Classroom	<p>Classroom Application</p> <p>Edublog is a safe blogging tool build on the WordPress platform. Post at a pace (weekly, daily or more often) to engage parents in ongoing conversations about learning. Edublog makes it easy for teachers to communicate with parents about what is happening in the classroom. Teachers can encourage students to collaboratively contribute information to share.</p>
	Website, Chrome, iOS	
	Tutorial: https://goo.gl/5gioT8	
	Access: https://edublogs.org/	
<p>For more information about classroom applications visit: https://www.commonsense.org/education/website/edublogs</p>		

<p>Weebly</p>  <p>Free, Cost</p>	Share Classroom Information	<p>Classroom Application</p> <p>Weebly offers a safe learning environment that allows teachers to easily create a classroom website. Parents can stay up to date on classroom activities and student work through the website. Creating a classroom website allows teachers to offer a one-stop shop for classroom information and links year round.</p>
	Website, Chrome, iOS	
	Tutorial: https://goo.gl/bZDUAY	
	Access: https://education.weebly.com/	
<p>For more information about classroom applications visit: https://www.commonsense.org/education/website/edublogs</p>		

<p>Twitter</p>  <p>Free</p>	Update on Classroom Activities	<p>Classroom Application</p> <p>Twitter and other social media sites can serve as a fast, simple tool for daily class updates using photos, videos, links or creating a poll. Teachers can send out one-way communication or announcements to parents without requiring feedback. Twitter can boost involvement and engage parents on platform they already access.</p>
	iOS, Android, Website, Chrome	
	Tutorial: https://goo.gl/zLwJy3	
	Access: https://twitter.com/	
<p>For more information about classroom applications visit: https://www.commonsense.org/education/website/twitter</p>		

Regardless of the online parent-outreach strategy used, remember to keep students' and their parents' privacy and safety in mind. Posts that are helpful, informative and professional can help enhance communication between schools and home.