



ST. FRANCIS DE SALES SCHOOL

March 30, 2020

St. Francis Parents,

As many of you know, Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-21 set forth the "temporary requirement to suspend activities that are not necessary to sustain or protect life" throughout the state of Michigan. This order is currently set to end on April 13th. While we are operating under the assumption that school will start again on April 14th, we are also looking to the future in which the possibility exists this school closure period will be extended. In complying with this order, the school office will now be closed to the general public until the executive order is officially lifted. We are still available for any questions, though. The easiest way to contact us is by email: don.erickson@sfsdraiders.com or janet.knafla@sfsdraiders.com.

I would like to reiterate this is not an extended vacation. In order to make sure your children are continuing to learn and stay on course to advance to the next grade level it is imperative that your child log on to their individual Google Classroom daily and participate fully in each lesson. If you haven't been able to get connected to Google Classroom please contact your child's teacher immediately as introductory lessons have already begun for many grades. All classes will be on Google Classroom by this upcoming Friday, April 3rd. As I stated in a prior communication, we are going to mitigate the disruption to the learning process as much as possible during this time. The teachers will be making videos to help your child with difficult concepts. In addition, teachers will be having face-to-face Google Hangout sessions where your child will be able to interact with the teacher as well as fellow classmates. Over the past few weeks, our teachers have been working on moving their "brick and mortar" classrooms into the virtual environment. They have been working tirelessly to ensure your child still receives the high-quality education we have all come to expect from St. Francis de Sales School.

In order to deliver the best possible remote instruction to your child, constant communication is crucial. Please make sure you are checking your ClassDojo, email, Remind texts, etc. daily. If you are having any difficulties at all with these modes of communication, please contact the school office immediately. This remote learning experience will only work with constant communication.

Your child's learning will still be assessed during this time. We have extended the 3rd marking period by one week, meaning the end of the marking period will now be Friday, April 3rd. Report cards will be emailed to all of you by the end of the day on April 3rd. Remember you can log in at any time to OptionC to check on your student's academic progress. If you have any questions about logging in, please contact Mrs. Knafla. In addition, regardless of when we get back to school, we will be testing all students at the end of May to assess whether or not your child will need additional assistance throughout the summer to ensure he/she will be ready to move to the next grade level starting in September. We are working now to find the funds to make this "summer school" option a reality.

I would like to close by saying how grateful I am for all of you! You are having to juggle work, family life, and keeping your child on task with schoolwork. Speaking from experience, I can say this is no easy task. I know, however, that we will get through this. I know because we are strong; we are a family. If you need anything at all, please do not hesitate to contact me.

God bless,

Mr. Erickson