

March 18, 2020

Dear Annapolis Lower School Family,

II Timothy 1:7 states, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." I am praying this verse for your family and our school community, as we face unprecedented challenges and changes due to Covid-19.

As Mr. Kempton communicated, this week we are off, using our unused snow days, and next week is our regularly scheduled spring break. We will begin remote learning on Monday, March 30. Our goal, K-12, is to make these meaningful and productive days, although they will look different than a normal school day.

Next Wednesday, March 25, homeroom teachers will send you specific lesson plans for each day starting Monday, March 30. We are targeting 1-2 hours of work each day for grades K-2, and 2-3 hours each day for grades 3-5. We are designing work for individual students to complete, but we realize the younger the student the more adult guidance they will need from you (or another adult).

Throughout the week, teachers will be available by email to answer specific questions for students and parents. Ideally, they will be available during normal school hours, but we also realize you may have questions outside of these times due to your busy work schedules. We are glad to help however we can. It is going to take teamwork and flexibility to help the children learn, grow, and thrive.

When you receive the plans on Wednesday, March 25, please review them so you can be ready to begin on March 30. You will notice some online resources the teachers will use (i.e. IXL, Brain Pop Jr., Discovery Education, etc...). Make sure you can log in to these accounts (login information in the attached document). Let your child's teacher know if you have any problems. Please note, the school has accounted for each of these sites, and you do not need to pay to use any of them.

The lesson plans will serve as daily checklists. Students will have tasks to do in a variety of subjects. When each task is complete, check it off or initial it. At the end of each day, use your phone to send the teacher a picture of the completed checklist and pictures of any written work completed. Teachers will be able to review and grade work, and this will count towards daily attendance.

Attached is a Word file that lists all of the online technology resources we have available to us. If you are looking for something to keep your kids busy before March 30, feel free to have them utilize one of these resources. They can practice their typing, work on IXL, computer code, and much more.

We have put all lunch orders on hold. Mrs. Heckert will make sure you get credited for all lunches ordered. These credits will be added to your next order form in May.

Our leadership team continues to meet regularly. Mr. Kempton will send K-12 updates to all school families. Additional health advisory information can be found on our school website under Campus Life. I will also keep you updated with ALS specific information. If remote learning continues after April 3, teachers will send lesson plans one week at a time.

To clarify information regarding the close of the 3rd quarter, I am including the information Mr. Kempton communicated in his last K-12 email. Thursday, March 12, is now considered the end of Quarter 3 instruction, which is one week earlier than scheduled. To attain a fuller picture of student progress, teachers will have the latitude to include assessments that they give during the first week of Quarter 4 into the Quarter 3 grades, if necessary. As a result, Quarter 3 reports cards will be delayed until April 10.

This email has been sent to you through Veracross. If this email is not the best email to use, please email Mrs. Wood (jwood@aacsonline.org) and your homeroom teacher with the correct email.

If you have any questions I can answer, please email me anytime at ewilliams@aacsonline.org

May God bless you and your family; may He guide and enable us all in this new season of learning; and may He protect us and encourage us every hour of every day.

All for Him, Principal Elizabeth Williams