



Lions Unleashed

BCS Lower School Remote Learning Plan

Dear BCS Lower School Parents,

Recently, we have found ourselves in unusual circumstances as we have dealt with the impact of the Coronavirus. We have been working to develop a family and student friendly remote learning plan for our Lower School students. Our goal is to keep learning moving forward during this time. The plan considers the fact that students have varied or limited access to technology/tech devices and may have different types of daily supervision during this time. Our goal is to develop an engaging plan of learning that will continue to support our academic goals at each grade level and will also be easily understood and implemented by both students and caregivers.

We are pleased to share with you our Lower School remote learning plan, called **LIONS UNLEASHED**. Beginning Monday, March 30, 2020, we are “unleashing” our lions from their traditional classroom experience to explore new ways of learning while out of the classroom! We are excited about this plan that we hope will engage students in learning while providing unique and enriching learning opportunities, review of skills, and service to others.

While the idea of remote schooling with your child(ren) during this time may seem challenging, it is our desire to keep things simple, consistent, and user-friendly. After considering several learning platforms/apps and considering potential technological limitations and variances among families, we will simply ask teachers to use email as the primary source of communication for assignments and materials. K4-5th grade teachers will use a similar template to post the week’s class assignments. Sixth grade teachers will continue to post assignments in Renweb. Weekly lesson plans will be emailed to parents each week along with additional instructional materials such as videos, worksheets, and other instructional guides. The plans for the week of March 30 will be emailed from your child’s teacher on Saturday, March 28th, by 4:00 pm. (Please note that the UPPER SCHOOL will not post lesson plans for students until Monday, March 30th.) Going forth, future lesson plans will be emailed to you each Friday, by 3:00 pm. If you do not receive lesson plans, please reach out to your child’s teacher. Since we will also need to take some grades during this time, teachers will also provide detailed instructions on home assessments such as quizzes and tests. (Please see additional details regarding grades/assessments found in the QUESTION/ANSWER section of this document.)

Please note that teachers may be assigning some learning tasks that are a bit “non-traditional” as we consider the fact that we all may be confined to our homes. Our desire is to make

learning fun and engaging during this time and we may employ some creative learning assignments that lend themselves to remote learning opportunities at home. While we will still have some practice worksheets and workbook assignments, we want to provide more than just a packet of “busy work” for our students. Our hope is that these assignments will be a balance of traditional and creative learning tasks designed for our students to learn and grow and even engage others in the learning process. Please note, depending on the grade level and teacher, some assignments may include links to online curriculum resources, quizzes, and utilize apps/platforms that have already been in use by the school this year (SeeSaw, SuperKids Parent Portal, Google Forms, etc.). (See more details regarding tech use in the QUESTION/ANSWER section of this document.)

It is the desire of our faculty and staff to remain connected to our students during this time. To help us stay in touch with our students, teachers and administrators will send personal messages to you to share with students and make arrangements to personally connect with each individual student and/or classes via video, phone call, or Zoom during the week. Our classroom teachers will provide more detail soon! The administrative team will provide a weekly devotional every Monday, a “Wednesday Wave” video, and chapel lesson each Friday. Thank you for sharing these with your child.

One thing that is important to remember is that while school is not happening in the traditional sense, it still needs to be happening each day, albeit in a much different way! While we know that the plan for daily supervision for your children may vary from family to family, we encourage you to develop a consistent schedule for your child each day that includes time set aside for school work. As we all know, children thrive with routine and setting a good schedule/daily routine will help them make a smooth transition to the remote learning plan. We are asking each parent/caregiver to assist children in completing assignments each day to retain the skills we have worked on during this year and to keep learning moving forward. Daily engagement with the assignments and tasks will also ensure that students will continue to grow academically. Please remember, your children will adopt your response to this remote learning plan. We encourage you to present this in a positive light each day and see this as a sweet time for you to engage in your child’s learning. We also encourage you to see this time at home as a special gift to just “be” with your child(ren) and enjoy a different season of life that is not frenzied or over-scheduled.

We all recognize that this current situation is unprecedented and creates a fluid situation. While we have done our best to create a good plan for our students to continue their education while away from school, we know the plan is likely to have unforeseen challenges. It may be necessary for us to make adjustments along the way to keep us moving forward and best serve our students. We thank you in advance for your patience. If challenges or concerns do arise, let’s do our best to extend kindness and grace to each other while we problem solve or make revisions to this plan. Please know that we are all available during this time to answer questions and support you in any way. Feel free to email your child’s teacher or the administrative team at any time. Teachers and Administrators will have daily “virtual office” hours from 9:00 am-2:30

pm and will regularly check and respond to emails. Email will be our preferred and recommended mode of communication during this time. In an effort to monitor and make adjustments to the remote learning plan, we will be sending brief surveys to solicit parent feedback on our LIONS UNLEASHED program.

We will continue to offer counseling, tutoring, and student support services to our families and students, as needed. If your child is currently participating in any of our student support services, the directors and/or teachers of these services will be reaching out to you the week of March 30th to discuss a plan for assisting your child. Also, feel free to email your child's teacher or division principal, if you would like to utilize these student support resources.

Let us say how much we miss seeing our precious students each day! As you know, we love and cherish your children. We are praying for the safety and well-being of each family. Please continue to pray for our teachers and staff as we seek to serve your students through this remote learning plan. During these unusual and sometimes frightening times may you "*Cast your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.*" 1 Peter 5: 7.

Lions Unleashed
Remote Learning Plan
Questions/Answers

Here are a few questions and answers that you may have about *Lions Unleashed Remote Learning Plan* for our K4-6th grade Lower School students. Please note that due to the nature of this ever evolving situation, this plan could change.

How does the school envision an "at home" learning plan? We recognize that each family will have to develop a schedule and plan that works best for your situation. We do recommend that school work happen consistently every day to allow students to progress with learning. The length of your "at home" school day may vary depending on the age of your children and the nature of each assignment.

When will weekly lesson plans be sent? Teachers will send plans to you for our first week of remote learning by 4:00 pm on Saturday, March 28th. Going forward, future lesson plans will be sent to parents each Friday, by 3:00 pm.

How will grades be given? Teachers will ask for some assignments to be "turned in." The teacher will give specific instructions for submitting an assignment, test, or quiz to be graded. Often this will involve taking a picture of a completed assignment, test, or quiz and emailing it to the teacher. We ask that tests and quizzes be monitored by a parent according to the teacher's instructions.

What about Special Subject Area Classes? The Special Area Teachers will provide additional enriching activities that will supplement your child's learning at home. While these special area class assignments are not required, they can provide some opportunities to enrich learning for our students. There will also be opportunities for our Special Area teachers to assist your students with homework assignments or assist with the understanding of new concepts. If you feel your child would benefit from these services, please contact your child's teacher.

What if I have questions or my child does not understand an assignment or concept?

Please contact your child's teacher, **first**. She/he will be able to answer specific questions about content and assignments. If the class is encountering a brand new concept, she/he will provide instruction on the concept. Also, we can connect you with a Special Area Teacher to assist your child with new information.

What if I don't have a printer? Any assignment given may be completed on notebook paper or plain, white paper. Simply write the title of the assignment on the paper (in the way prescribed by the teacher) and number the paper to correlate with the numbers on the assignment.

What if my child does not want to do their work? Children work best when there is structure and routine. We want to encourage you to set a daily schedule with a time for academics built into their day. The school expects the best from our students and we know what they are capable of excellence. In your daily schedule establish a balance of activities. We suggest your routine begins with a daily devotion and then creates a balance of academics, chores (serving others), and FUN! Teachers will be checking in on each child's progress and will reach out to them to encourage and support them as needed.

There are so many cool Apps and learning platforms like ZOOM conferencing, Google Classroom, etc. Why aren't you guys using these? Yes! There are many, many cool learning platforms and tools that would greatly benefit remote learning. In developing this plan, we had to consider the fact that some students may have varied or limited access to technology/tech devices and may have different types of daily supervision during this time. For example...Some families may have multiple children, but one home tech device. We also considered that some children may be under the supervision of grandparents, or neighbors, who are not "tech savvy" and may not be able to assist students with online learning. We decided to keep things simple and just email assignments and materials each week to parents to view or print.

Please note: Some teachers may include some assignments involving on-line resources like our IXL, SeeSaw, and SuperKids program, YouTube video links and pre-recorded lessons. Teachers may also include other websites for learning and review. While these do require access to a tech device, these assignments can be completed as devices are available and under parent/caregiver supervision. Many teachers have offered alternative options within their lesson plans in the event that technology is not available. If you have any challenges with these assignments or do not have access to technology, please let your teacher know and they can modify on-line assignments.

What if my child is missing materials, textbooks or supplies needed to complete the assignment? If your child is missing necessary material to complete an assignment, please make the teacher aware and she can take a picture and send it to you. If you are missing supplies we will be flexible and adapt to what you have available at your home.

If there are any questions or challenges we are available to problem solve and adjust as necessary. Our goal is to serve you child and your family with excellence. In all things we seek to glorify our Heavenly Father and at this time, during these circumstances we choose to see the opportunities to grow closer to God, to see joy in the moment, and to look toward tomorrow at all of His many blessings.

To God be the Glory,

The BCS Lower School Administrative Team

*Please refer to the COVID-19 page on our Briarwood School website to access additional information, updates, and weekly chapel lessons.



Worship Remotely With Us!

If you do not have a church home, we would love for you to worship at home with Briarwood Presbyterian Church! Here are the links to our Sunday Live Stream and the Children's Ministry Sunday Children's Worship. Sunday worship is live-streamed at 10:55 am and posted later on the church Facebook page.

[Briarwood Pres Live Stream Sunday Worship](#)

[Briarwood Pres Children's Worship](#)

Don't forget to follow us on social media! We are posting great pictures of our school family!

