

March 20, 2020

Dear Friends:

I trust you continue to be well in these challenging times. Know that I think of you and your children often and miss our daily interactions at Primary Day.

As this week has unfolded, and with guidance from state, local and national authorities, it has become abundantly clear that on-campus learning cannot begin as scheduled on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at the conclusion of the spring recess. We will launch our virtual learning program on that day, and continue through Friday, April 10 with a potential return to school on Monday, April 13, 2020. I surely understand that with self-quarantine and social distancing in effect, it may be difficult to distinguish between vacation and the weeks we must be closed due to the COVID – 19 health crisis. However, I also know of your resilience and your resourcefulness and I am certain that your ‘staycation’ will be filled with opportunities to enjoy your children both at home and out-of-doors.

The virtual learning activities that our teachers are working to assemble are both developmentally-appropriate and carefully crafted to replicate the classroom experience as practicably as possible. In addition to reading, writing and math lessons, many of our specialists have also designed projects for your children to enjoy. During our ‘virtual learning weeks’ you can expect communications from me, regular emails from your child’s teacher and each child will receive a personal telephone call from their teacher each week. Besides the resources provided by the faculty, we have assembled a listing of resources [here](#) that you may find helpful. While the school building is currently closed to staff and families alike, I remain available should you have a question or a concern. Please do reach out via email or, if you prefer, we can arrange a time for a telephone conversation.

Once we return to our well-loved campus, we will still be taking every precaution to insure the continued health of our community and, with that in mind, some adjustments to our school calendar are in order. In addition to the cancellation of the April Beakos, we are also postponing the parent education session with Ms. Reiner, an on-campus art field trip and the Five-Year Reunion. Unfortunately, we must also cancel our *Comfort Cases* community service events

Admittedly, when at home I am a “cable news junkie” with the television tuned to CNN much of the time. More than once in recent days, I have heard pundits describe these difficult days as the ‘new normal’ – I disagree. There is nothing about this worldwide calamity that is normal. This is territory we



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have never traversed. The only way forward is together. Thank you for being an important part of 'together' at Primary Day.

Hail to Beako!

Warmly,

Scott Lawrence
Head of School