

March 13, 2020

Dear St. Cecilia School Families,

In the last 36 hours there have been multiple developments in our state's and our community's response to the COVID-19 virus. Although at this point, St. Cecilia School does not have an actual exposure or current concern of a specific exposure to COVID-19, beginning Monday, March 16th, our school campus will be closed and we will begin our Digital Learning Protocol. Below (and attached) is an explanation and some questions/answers regarding our Digital Learning Protocol. Know that distance/digital learning is new to our school and will likely develop and change over time, especially if there are school closures beyond the initial time frame required by the Governor.

At this point, we will not be hosting any school or non-school related events in the school building beginning at 6pm tonight when our extended care closes through spring break. Our cleaning crew is coming in this weekend and next week to do a thorough deep clean of our entire school facility.

We will keep vigilant and follow the development of this virus using resources such as the Oregon Department of Education, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and the Archdiocese Department of Catholic Schools regarding re-opening.

Digital Learning Days are indeed intended to continue the momentum of learning when the school building is closed. Since this is the goal, students will not be getting the bulk of work up front to work on over the entire time period as they do with summer work. Instead, teachers will be communicating each day's assignments/activities by 8am and checking in digitally with students and families on a regular, daily basis for all of the days outlined below as official digital learning days. In order for these days to truly be counted as school days, we are also required to take attendance. Therefore, if your student is sick, please still email the office and the teacher so that we know why they are not able to participate in their school day.

We understand that this is asking a lot of parents, so we want to try to make this transition as smooth as possible. We recommend setting up a regular routine. An example is: Start the day by checking at 8am what the daily assignments/activities are for your student(s). Possibly have your student choose one assignment/activity to complete right at that time. Then allow for a little break time and at 10am sit down again to work on another assignment/activity.

The teachers and I will all be available via email from 10am-12pm on all official digital learning days. Our goal is to provide work slowly over time so that students truly do continue the momentum of learning.

March 16: Digital Learning Day
March 17: Digital Learning Day
March 18: Digital Learning Day
March 19: No School- Teacher Planning Day
March 20: No School- Teacher Planning Day
March 23: No School- Spring Break

March 24: No School- Spring Break
March 25: No School- Spring Break
March 26: No School- Spring Break
March 27: No School- Spring Break
March 30: No School- Accreditation Day
March 31: Digital Learning Day

Look for updates about the beginning dates of April to see if we open back up

We truly do appreciate your partnership, now more than ever, with this distance learning. If you are struggling with the technology or any assignments/activities, please reach out to us. If you do not have access to technology, please let us know as soon as possible. We are understanding of the uniqueness of this situation and will work with each family as much as possible.

During this difficult time, let us remember our loving and merciful God, may our hands be strengthened for the work we are called to do. May our hearts always turn toward Him. May our eyes see His promise. May we work together to help those in our local and global community as we navigate this unknown territory.

Blessings,
Lillie Stevens