3/31/2020

Extension of School Closure through May 4th

Dear Celtic Families, Students, and Friends,

**You may have heard by now that today Governor Greg Abbott has declared that all schools in Texas will remain closed through May 4th.** Therefore in compliance with these orders, our school building will remain closed until we are given permission to resume school inside our school. However, for us, school is continuing! We are now 10 days into our Distance Instruction format and we are all doing amazing things!

I want to acknowledge first that this is an incredibly stressful time for everyone! Some of us are completely alone, perhaps we're a single parent with one child, unable to visit with friends or family; others live in a house full of people, including grandpa and grandma, and have little room to conduct school in, let alone a proper space to work from home or find peace of mind in. Some of you still are having to leave early in the morning and return late in the evening because you work in essential businesses or have jobs which do not lend themselves to telecommuting. Many of our students are home alone all day, either completely alone, or taking care of younger siblings, helping them with school, and in all that trying to find time for their own school work. There are so many scenarios in our own community that are creating enormous stress and anxiety on our precious families. I want to tell you I share in this with you and feel so deeply for everyone, whatever your situation might be!

 Please know that as a community, we hold each other in Prayer and Love and Compassion. Holy Trinity is a Family, and the faculty & staff are putting their energy into making sure this Family stays together and finds comfort in each others' prayers and support.

Despite the physical closure of our school building, school itself is going forward steadily and ever-improvingly.  I am profoundly grateful to our amazing faculty & staff and amazing students for the courage and determination with which they've all transitioned into distance instruction. By now, we are all starting to get into a rhythm and figuring out how to keep up, do good work, and continue on with our 4th quarter. Please continue to reach out to teachers directly, or to me, or to both, if you are having any issues, or if what worked last week for you doesn't work for you next week. We are growing through this experience, and constantly making adjustments. It is important that we grow together! We don't want anyone left behind. If you're struggling, please reach out and let us know. Communication is key.

With the focus on communication, we are working hard at growing our digital community: please continue to check our website and social media for posts and videos. We are trying to keep our daily announcements and prayers as regular as possible. Look for more information soon on how to share in this ministry - we'd truly like our online presence to become a school-wide project.

If you miss any of our morning announcements or prayers, we keep links to everything and you can catch them at any time during the day. If you're not sure how to access our digital community, please reach out to Mrs. Poehlmann (mpoehlmann@holytrinitychs.org) or to Mrs. Enriquez (jenriquez@holytrinitychs.org). Both are working diligently on keeping the communication lines open between the school and our community. They need our support and feedback to keep this new ministry at our school vibrant while handling all the other aspects of their jobs. Keep sending pictures and be sure to like and share their posts!

Mass last week was live streamed from our Chapel. If all goes well, it will be live streamed again this week, but I believe it will be on Thursday at 9:30 am rather than Wednesday. More details about this should be sent soon.

A huge thank you to all of you for being a part of Holy Trinity! This is an unprecedented time in our school's history, and in the world at large. One day we'll look back at it all and know we were part of what kept HT alive and strong and successful during this worldwide pandemic. Fr. Charlie, who is watching from Heaven and sending us beautiful sunsets nightly, reminded us to always know that God is with us, all the time. He has a plan for each of us, He has a plan for our school. He knew this was coming, and He's carrying us through it. We just need to do our part, because He'll always do His.

I miss you all so much and embrace each of you! Students, I miss you more than I can say. Stay strong and stay healthy!

Love and prayers,

Mrs. Brogan