



## St. Augustine of Canterbury School

A National Blue Ribbon School

Member of NCEA & AdvancED Accredited

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March 24, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have come to the end of our first week of remote learning. – Our entire staff has been working very hard these past two weeks to try to make the transition from in- school learning to remote learning as smooth as possible. This has been a new experience for all of us. The students miss being in school and we miss them.

We have amazing students who are responding successfully to this new challenge. Has there been bumps in the road? Of course, but we know that when we all work together - parents, teachers, students, faculty, administration, and staff, we are at our best and help one another to get over them.

We have received the approval from our Diocese that legally we are able to use Zoom, a platform for a virtual webinars workshops The approval comes at the end of this first week. What great timing! Our teachers were trained how to use it earlier this week. This past week we forged ahead into remote learning well-prepared with transition strategies: using links, our on-line textbooks and resources more effectively, various tools to create teacher instructive pre-recorded videos, differentiated instruction through remote teacher interaction, and taking virtual class trips. We have accomplished milestones in a short time. Why and How? Your child/ren were the focus. The faculty and staff are demonstrating how much your child and their learning means to them. They are passionate and love what they do-teaching.

This week we move forward in the use of Zoom confidently with the approval of the “Go Ahead.” The students will need to follow the [Ethical Use of Technology Policy](#) very closely and carefully so that remote learning can take place with a serious and respectful manner. It will provide an opportunity for a more visual collaborative strategy of teaching and learning. This program will be introduced slowly, cautiously and closely monitored so as not to interrupt the smooth and successful learning taking place at this time. This will be a new experience for our students. We have confidence that they will rise to the challenge of continuing the learning process using this tool properly.

Please see the next several pages for UPDATED online information and schedules. Last week I attended my on line conferences and will continue to do so. After speaking to different principals and teachers I would like to offer the following suggestions and expectations:

For those classes on Zoom :- (with the exception of Mrs. Pucci & Mr. Tackett)

- PLEASE make sure that your child is in a quiet place and using air buds, or headphones..
- They are in class and we want to limit as many interruptions as possible. While teachers are “teaching” everyone will be muted and not on camera until the end of the lesson. (This may be altered in the upcoming weeks)

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- "It takes time to focus," seems to be feedback from principals and teachers presently using it.. It is advised that the students leave their microphones muted. Several classes have joined together to have a social zoom room where it most likely to be more informal.
- Classes for grades 1-5 are expected to be about 30 minutes, **(Schedule attached)**
- Middle school classes will be 40 minutes each . **(Schedules attached)**
- PreK3, PreK4 and teachers are currently scheduled for 15-20 minute meetings every day.
- Pre-K 4 class will be divided in A/B Section divided alphabetically by last name.
- Kindergarten is scheduled for from 20-25 minutes
- **Schedules For All Grades May Change As We Move Forward**

**PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED EXPECTATIONS FOR THE STUDENTS AND THE  
EXPECTATIONS FOR CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

**Keeping in mind, if all goes as well as expected, students may have time to be visible or discussions and sharing.**

Teachers will address questions on Google Classrooms for Grades 3-8. The teachers are available during the school day to answer questions via school email for Grades Pre-K -2.

Let's continue to pray for those who have been infected, who are caring for the sick and those who are trying to prevent the virus from spreading.

Blessings on Each of Your Families,

Sister Mary Louise Shulas, MPF

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