WEEKLY UPDATE

1954 · MONSIGNOR SLADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL **65** YEARS · **2019**

Next week's calendar:

The Archdiocese will conform to the State's guidance and continue the closure of our school through Friday, April 24, 2020. Our spring break, which is scheduled to begin on Monday, April 6, and run through Wednesday, April 15, will continue as planned.

God indeed is my savior;
   I am confident and unafraid.
My strength and my courage is the Lord,
   and he has been my savior.
                    ~Isaiah 12:2

Dear Parents,

I hope this weekly communication continues to find you and your families safe and healthy. Although we are facing difficult times, I am so thankful for the support you have given to the school and its faculty. Your flexibility and willingness to make remote learning work is very appreciated.

As you are aware, Catholic schools will remain closed through April 24, 2020. During this extended closure, the teachers will continue to push out the essential Archdiocesan curriculum for Pre-K4-8th grade and be engaged with your children. I will continue to post the Morning Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance on our website and on our social media platforms. I have heard from so many that these messages help to keep a sense of normalcy in the children's day, and we all need a little bit of that at this time.

I know that you have many questions, as we do, about what the remainder of the school year will look like. We will observe our regularly scheduled Easter break from April 6, 2020, through April 15, 2020. During this time, there will be no work assigned to students so that you as a family may celebrate this holiest, most important solemnity of the Church, when we remember the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I do want to take a moment to share some updates due to the extended closure:

- Remote teaching and learning will continue March 30-April 3, 2020.
- Easter break will be observed April 6-15, 2020.
- Remote teaching and learning will resume on April 16, 2020.
- The Class of 2016 Reunion is cancelled at this time.
- 8th grade final exams are cancelled.
- Middle school parents whose FACTS accounts were charged for the field trip to Old Mill High School will be credited for the cost of that trip, as it will not be rescheduled this year.
- Billing for yearbooks will be posted on your FACTS accounts on May 1st, not April 1st, as was indicated on the order form.
- Parish News from Christ the King Catholic Church in Glen Burnie - The parish is streaming morning Masses every day at 8:30 a.m., and also on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. in English and 10 a.m. in Spanish through the parish Facebook account. The Facebook page is listed as "Cristo Rey en Glen Burnie," and it is in both English and Spanish, despite the name. Father Austin will also add some video messages and catechesis to the page on occasion.

We have attached a letter from the Archdiocese which provides guidance and reminders about technology use during this period of remote learning. In addition, the Acceptable Use Policy for the Archdiocese of Baltimore, which is the same as the one families sign in School Admin each year, is also attached. Additionally, you will also

find an attached letter from our school counselor providing added resources for students and families during this challenging time. And finally, you will find an attached flyer about Operation Mato Grosso, an organization near and dear to our Slade hearts. The Lenten Food Drive for Operation Mato Grosso has been put on hold. Hopefully, by the end of the outbreak, we will be able to resume the drive and help them to reach their goal of sending two large containers down to the missions in Peru. In place of the Food Drive for now, they are delivering produce to those who may not feel comfortable going out in public. Please share this information with anyone who may be interested in this service.

Please remember, that even though we are not together physically as a school community at this time, we are together in spirit. I will continue to pray for all of you, and know that the staff, teachers, and I are here to help you and your children through this difficult period.

Sincerely,

Alexa L. Cox
Principal

Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary during the coronavirus pandemic

O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping
your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

Mission Statement
The mission of Monsignor Slade Catholic School is to promote Catholic faith and intellectual development in our students. We do this by teaching about and modeling the precepts of the Catholic faith, as well as challenging our students with a rigorous course of study. We do this so that they will use their faith, knowledge, and skills to shape their futures positively and work for the benefit of the whole society.

Dear Parents:

As you know, COVID-19 has caused drastic changes to the way in which educational content must be delivered, as social distancing prevents in-person classes. By necessity, we must rely more heavily on web-based education tools to facilitate remote learning.

We thought it important to emphasize again that the School's parent/student handbook, including its disciplinary policies, behavior and conduct standards, and harassment and bullying policies, apply with equal force during this remote learning period. In particular, students and parents should familiarize themselves with the School's Acceptable Use Policy for the Internet and Technology Tools, which I have attached to this email for your convenience.

The Acceptable Use Policy explains parents' responsibility to review the Policy with their students, and to support the School in its enforcement: by monitoring their students' internet use, by modeling appropriate Internet behavior for their students' technology use, and by reporting any concerns regarding their students' technology use to the School. Now more than ever, please make sure to be aware of your students' activities on the Internet.

As this period of remote learning brings the classroom into the home to a greater degree, it is vital that you impress upon other household members the importance of maintaining appropriate language and dress during video learning sessions. While the school uniform is not required, students should be fully dressed and wearing clothing that does not contain inappropriate words or content.

Considering the necessary reliance on web-based learning tools to deliver remote learning, we thought this a good time to remind parents that the School uses Google Apps for Education and other web-based education tools, sites, and services to provide students with remote learning and enhanced opportunities to communicate and share collaboratively with their teachers and one another. Google Apps for Education provides students with access to Google Meet, which provides secure and encrypted video conferencing capabilities, along with a student calendar, word processing and spreadsheet apps, web design tools, and email.

As a part of students' use of web-based services for learning, certain educational records may be created, collected, or stored by web-based services, such as Google Apps for Education. Information about Google Apps for Education's privacy practices is available here, https://www.google.com/edu/trust/. Directory information, such as a child's name, email address, grade/age, and enrollment status, may also be shared with web-based services. Students should not have any expectation of privacy with respect to any communications or activities through such services.

If you have any concerns regarding your student's use of web-based services, please contact the Principal. Otherwise, you will be deemed to have consented to your student's access and use of

web-based services and to allowing your student's education records to be created, collected, or stored by such web-based services, including Google Apps for Education, as described above.

Thank you again for your continued trust and support. It means the world in this difficult time we all are facing.

Yours in service,

Superintendent
Department of Catholic Schools

Acceptable Use Policy for the Internet and Technology Tools

Technology skills are necessary to ready our students for their future. Access to the Internet and technology tools (including software tools, web-based applications and services, computer equipment, I-Pads, and other personal electronic devices) allow students to conduct research, produce digital content, and communicate with classmates and teachers. The Internet and technology tools put enormous power at the fingertips of users. As such, they also place a great deal of responsibility on users.

It is imperative that technology resources be used to build community, encourage critical reflection, and foster readiness for future learning. Developments in technology at the School are to be used ethically, legally, and responsibly. As in other areas, our students are expected to make good choices with regard to their behavior.

Individual users are responsible for their activity on the Internet and technology tools, including the material stored and information shared. In order to protect private and personal information, unauthorized disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal information is prohibited. The School reserves the right to edit Internet accounts for child-only configurations, and to run filtering software for students' protection.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that student users (and their parents) recognize the limitations the School imposes on the use of the Internet and technology tools and that they understand the standards of behavior the School expects of users.

All users of the School network and technology tools, <u>whether on a School-owned or personal device</u>, are responsible for adhering to the following guidelines for acceptable use.

***Acceptable** uses of the Internet and technology tools are for authorized academic and school-related activities that support learning and teaching and:*

- *Respect the privacy and property rights of others and the well-being of the School*
- *Are consistent with Roman Catholic values and morals*
- *Treat technology tools and computer equipment with respect.*

***Unacceptable** uses of the Internet and technology tools include but are not limited to:*

- *Violating the rights or privacy of others, including by photographing or filming an individual without consent*
- *Posting or distributing videos or photographs without consent of the persons depicted and the School*
- *Using technology to send profanity, obscenity, or other offensive or harmful language*
- *Unauthorized copying, downloading, or installation of content, software or applications (including plagiarism or "pirating" music)*
- *Sending false information or sending messages to the School community that fail to identify the sender (including anonymous messages or messages using a pseudonym)*
- *Using any program designed to disrupt network performance or breach network security, such as software designed to capture passwords or break encryption protocols*
- *Revealing personal information beyond what is required for login while using Internet or web-based resources*
- *Responding to inappropriate messages from others (which should be reported to the School)*
- *Downloading or copying information onto disks or hard drives without prior teacher approval*
- *Accessing, downloading, storing, or printing files or messages that are inappropriate or may be offensive to others (including pornography and other inappropriate images)*
- *Sharing of passwords or attempting to discover another's password (passwords should be changed frequently)*
- *Using or accessing another's account (network accounts are to be used only by those for whom the*

account has been established)

- *Intentionally writing, producing, generating, copying or introducing dangerous codes or programs designed to cause harm, including, but not limited to viruses, bugs, 'worms', etc.*
- *Intentionally damaging, altering, or tampering with any hardware, software, printers, keyboards, speakers, etc.*
- *Accessing or searching files, directories, or folders for which the user does not have authorization*
- *Intentionally erasing, renaming, or disabling of anyone else's files or programs*
- *Accessing social media, email, or other off-task websites or apps during School without explicit permission of a teacher or adult supervisor*
- *Violating School conduct rules or the law.*

Harassment/cyber-bullying of others online, whether against a student, non-student, or employee, is serious, is prohibited, and is contrary to the School's policy and values. Harassment/cyber-bullying whether it is initiated on campus or off campus, online or in person, should be reported immediately to a faculty member, and may lead to disciplinary action and possible criminal prosecution under Maryland's law prohibiting the Misuse of Interactive Computer Service ("Grace's Law").

Parents are responsible for:

- *Reviewing and discussing this policy with their child as well as supporting the School in its enforcement*
- *Partnering with the School in monitoring their child's technology use*
- *Modeling appropriate Internet behaviors for their child*
- *Reporting any concerns regarding this policy or their child's use of the Internet or technology tools to School personnel.*

Failure to adhere to the policy guidelines may result in a revocation of a student's Internet access and other technology privileges and disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion.

Web-based Services

The School uses Google Apps for Education as well as other web-based education tools, sites, and services ("web-based services") to provide students with important web-based educational experiences and enhanced opportunities to communicate and share collaboratively with one another. As part of students' use of web-based services, certain educational records may be created, collected, or stored. Directory information, such as a child's name, email address, grade/age, and enrollment status, may also be shared with web-based services. The School may access, monitor, and review children's use of web-based services and Internet use and children shall not have any expectation of privacy with respect to any communications or activities through such services. Use of web-based services is for educational purposes only and subject to the conduct and acceptable use guidelines set forth in this Handbook. A list of the School's web-based services and corresponding privacy policies are available upon request. By enrolling a child in the School, the parent consents to the child's participation in the School's academic activities and programs, including the child's use of and access to web-based services as described in this paragraph. In order to withhold or withdraw consent for the use of web-based services, parents must contact the School principal in writing.

March 27, 2020

Hello Monsignor Slade Families!

With the newest announcement of an additional 4 weeks of distance learning, I felt it would be helpful to provide families with a few resources that may reduce stress and worry for our students and parents/guardians. Please feel free to reach out to me at k.watkins@msladeschool.com if you need additional help for your child.

Talking to your child about COVID-19
https://www.counselorkeri.com/2020/03/14/talk-to-kids-about-coronavirus/

Mindfulness Crafts you can do at home
https://www.counselorkeri.com/2020/03/22/mindfulness-crafts/

Managing Stress for Parents
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/managing-stress-anxiety.html

You may be feeling grief with this pandemic
https://hbr.org/2020/03/that-discomfort-youre-feeling-is-grief

Take a yoga break.
https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga

I will be sending out additional information over the next few weeks to help our school community cope with this pandemic. Remind your children about mindfulness techniques and take brain breaks to reduce stress. Stay safe!

Sincerely,
Kelly Watkins
School Counselor
k.watkins@msladeschool.com

operation MATO GROSSO

VOLUNTEERS
delivering
PRODUCE
to help the needy

*As you know, we are a group of young people who meet in our free time to work and raise money for the less fortunate. Although we're all stuck at home, we still want to make ourselves helpful to our Greater Baltimore community while continuing to support our missions in South America. So, we will start ...**delivering produce!***

You can order fruit and vegetables from VIVA FOOD, a wholesale produce market company based in Jessup, and we'll deliver the produce directly to your home! You'll pay the company for the groceries and, if you can, offer us a donation for the delivery. Your donation will provide people in communities in South America the chance to learn a trade, find steady work, stay near family and improve their lives; especially now in these very challenging times.

How it Works:

1. You need to buy fruit and vegetables but can't go out to the store

2. Call, text, or email our volunteers. Place your order and schedule a time for delivery.

3. Our volunteers will call 20 min before the delivery.

4. Place your checks or envelope in the mailbox. (One for VIVA FOOD, and another for your donation to OMG)

5. Volunteers deliver the box to your doorstep.

6. Your donation for the delivery will support Operation Mato Grosso projects in South America.

CONTACT: **Brady** 443-834-6680 brady.a.sack@gmail.com
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We are following the Coronavirus guidelines and doing our part to slow the spread of the virus.