Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we continue with the transition to online learning for the next few weeks, we truly appreciate your support and patience as we work together to ensure that your child(ren) continues to receive a quality education. Teachers are posting and reviewing assignments daily, just as they would make assignments and review your child’s (children’s) work in the classroom. We sincerely value the time and support you are giving to them as they complete their coursework at home. With that in mind, we have some suggestions for how you can best support your child(ren) in their learning, particularly as we work to help your child(ren) progress:

• Your child(ren) should attempt to complete each assignment on his/her own. If they need help with an assignment, please remind them of the options below that are available for getting help. You can also explore these options with your child. There are a number of ways assistance can be provided, such as:
  o Access Class Pages on the school’s website, stchristophersi.com, for daily instructional posts. Ensure your child, or you, responds to their teacher’s Google Classroom for attendance each day and to review posted concepts and skills.
  o Review the notes and/or information in their notebooks, books, or on postings related to that topic.
  o View an online video, or any online resources recommended by the teacher related to the topic.
  o Explain what the question or task is asking to help clarify for your child what is required.
  o Utilize Google Classroom to ask any questions about the assignment or to get additional information from your child’s teacher.

• Younger students may need assistance with navigating the online tools that they are to use. Please show them how to navigate the tools if they are unsure. If you are showing them how to navigate a particular site, please explain to the child what you are doing as you navigate so that the child can follow and do it for him/herself the next time. (Hint: Think – I do, we do, you do.)

• For assignments and assessments that are graded, it is important that the child complete it on his/her own and submit them by their due dates. As your child’s (children’s) teacher cannot observe the child completing the assignment or assessment, the only way the teacher knows if the child understands and can apply the concepts is through completion of the assignment / assessment.

• We sincerely appreciate the support and assistance you provide to your child, but particularly for graded work, we ask that the support and assistance be very limited as we need to determine the student’s learning and progress. Please understand that completing the assignment for your child(ren) does not help the child(ren) to learn and master the concepts and skills.

We cannot thank you enough for your assistance and support through this challenging time. We look forward, as we always do, to working with you, and supporting our families. To that end, Fr. Joe has also started a Class Page on the school website. Please take some time to read that with your children when possible. During this time spent together reading with your children a few minutes a day may help alleviate some of the stress felt during this time, and will also encourage your child to read more independently.

With that said, please feel free to contact your child’s teacher with any questions or concerns that may arise with posted assignments. They truly want to ensure that our children are progressing, and will assist in any way they can with their students’ learning.

I know that during this time we are keeping one another in our prayers and will continue to do so. May we all stay healthy and well.

Sincerely,

Catherine Falabella
Principal