



## St. Teresa of Calcutta School



Dear STC Parents,

Good afternoon to everyone! As you are aware, there has been a great deal of concern raised regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19), and what steps are necessary moving forward. I want to share with you some of the procedures we are following at school to prevent the spread of illness, and plan for the possible spread of the coronavirus.

The approach is a multi-step approach. First and foremost, we are taking steps to reinforce the need to maintain healthy behaviors that minimize the ability to catch or spread any virus. Simple steps such as those listed below are the most important steps we can take and we ask that you reinforce these with your child/ren such as:

- Enforcing solid hygiene practices like washing hands thoroughly (with soap and water) and covering up coughs/sneezes. Use a tissue if possible or cough/sneeze into the elbow area.
- Helping children to understand why they should not put fingers in eyes, ears, nose and mouth and now not even touching those areas.
- Disinfecting student desks, tables, and hard surfaces where virus droplets could remain for a period of time as well as wiping down doorknobs, stair railings, and light switches. Lunchroom tables are wiped down after each lunch period-everyday.
- Asking all faculty, staff, and students who are feeling ill to stay home until they recover.

Additionally, we receive regular updates from the PA Department of Health which provides guidance regarding the nature of the coronavirus and steps we should be taking. We are also taking steps to prepare for providing virtual school days in the event that the Department of Health recommends we close schools for any reason.

We will monitor closely and follow the recommendation of the Pennsylvania and County Department of Health. For the most up to date information, I recommend that you follow the guidelines from the Center for Disease Control (CDC). The website address is: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov). I am including some flyers from the Department of Health for you and they are meant to inform not scare anyone. I will update the faculty on a regular basis but will not be making announcements over the public address system regarding the coronavirus as worries regarding the virus has caused high anxiety in some students. The teachers will keep a balance in addressing the issue with the children entrusted to their care.

In times like this, I am particularly grateful for the strength and togetherness of the STC faculty, staff and family community. Please continue to look for further communications on this matter.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Dixon