

Our Lady of Victories School

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March 13, 2020

Dear Parents,

As you know communication of the ever changing concerns with the Coronavirus is of major importance to everyone. As stated in last Friday's principal letter and posted on the "new" Coronavirus webpage on our school's website, the OLV School's staff, faculty and administration are actively taking the proper measures to ensure your child's safety and ready to deliver lessons in the event of school closure.

The following is an outline of preventive measures that have taken place over the course of these past few weeks: teachers created lessons and held discussions with their students on ways to avoid spreading germs, students were taught to preform handwashing for at least twenty seconds, "Habits Stop Spreading the Germ" Posters are displayed in the hallways as reminders, students must use the sanitizer before eating their lunch, reminders given to students and teachers to wash their hands after using the bathroom, classrooms are cleaned using disinfectant cleaner throughout the day and afternoon and finally, St. Peter's University Hospital Health Educational Programs came to visit OLV School today and provided a Handwashing presentation to students in grades Pre K -8 which they enjoyed!

Routine environment cleaning has intensified by our custodian, Jack Conlon, with increased cleaning of the school building with consistent and thorough cleaning of most frequently touched areas such as desk surfaces, handrails, door bars, door knobs, light switches, etc. Teachers are using disposable wipes throughout the day cleaning classroom surfaces as well.

Our nurse, Mrs. Halmi, and I communicate daily on the latest news of the Coronavirus and are using the guidelines from the NJDOH to ensure your child's safely. We are monitoring absenteeism of students by reviewing daily attendance. She will contact parents if their child is out for an extended length of time. Mrs. Halmi will alert health officials if there is a large increase in staff and student absenteeism via NJLINC/CDRSS program as per protocol.

The faculty and I met as a team at last Friday's faculty meeting as well as yesterday, to discuss our best practices to ensure student safety and the best methods to deliver online lessons to your child in the event we needed to close the school for an extended length of time. We recognize that these types of discussions will be an ongoing process.

The Diocese of Metuchen Office of Schools informed all of the Catholic schools' administrators and pastors that if the local school district decide to close for cleaning purposes doesn't mean we have to close our school. All of our schools will make that determination to close independently because of their own needs. If the closure of OLV School should occur, you would be informed by our Honeywell system. As was stated from our superintendent of schools, the New Jersey Department of Health will make school closure determinations. Begin to make preparations in case of school closure by: planning for child care, ensure your child has internet and an electronic device, update any Honeywell Instant Alert info, etc.

We are fully prepared to deliver education to your child via online learning and the teacher's websites, and emails for constant communication. Google classroom and Khan Academy will be utilized as a vehicle to deliver lessons in Reading, ELA and Math to your child for grades K-8. As well as Social Studies Weekly, Science Studies Weekly online platforms for students in grades K-5 and Discovery Education will be used for Social Studies and Science for students in grades 6-8. PreK parents will communicate with your child's teacher using their email, website and Google folders and Khan Academy. Go to the Coronavirus webpage on our school's website, for a more detailed outline of instruction https://www.olvnj.com/coronavirus-covid-19

In closing, please be assured that we are doing our best to keep you informed of the latest news, taking the proper steps to ensure the safety of your child and maintaining a joy-filled Christian educational environment.

GREAT NEWS to share!! Two of Mrs. Hockenjos's National GeoChallenge teams made the second level of competition! Congratulations to the "Plastic Film Fighters" and the "Plastic Police Patrol" and Mrs. Hockenjos for all of their hard work! They will be competing with schools around the nation on March 27th via skyping. Because of the Coronavirus, schools will no longer meet in person to compete. Keep them in your prayers!!!

Sincerely in Christ,

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