

March 19, 2020

Dear Mariner Families,

Greetings Mariners! As we celebrate the first day of Spring, we also continue to pray and respond to the health situation that is impacting our nation. Below is the latest update as of noon today (3-19-20):

**Texas Governor Greg Abbott has announced that all Texas schools are closed through April 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

**With this announcement, the OLG campus will remain closed to students at least until April 3<sup>rd</sup> and the following steps will be taken to provide a continuing education for our students.**

- **OLG Spring Break will be extended through next week until March 27<sup>th</sup>.** The faculty will utilize next week to continue to develop a standardized e-learning approach. **We will also be reaching out next week to parents to keep you up to date and to better understand each family's situation so as to ensure the best education possible for each child.** This will be done via SchoolMessenger (emails/texts) and all communications will also be posted on our website ([www.OLGMariners.org](http://www.OLGMariners.org)).
- **On March 30<sup>th</sup>, we will begin the transition over to an at-home learning environment with our students.**
  - As we go to an on-line platform, we will be utilizing the following:
    - A parent survey sent out via Google on school messenger to determine e-learning capabilities and needs of each family. (Please be watching for this next week and respond to it as quickly as possible.)
    - An outline on how to set up a conducive learning environment for each student within the home.
    - Methods of getting materials and equipment to the students as needed.
    - Communication protocols for students, parents, & teachers during school hours.
    - Website portals for students and attendance tracking.
    - Daily school schedules by subject for students to engage actively with their teachers and the curriculum.
    - Specific needs for adult monitoring of student learning in the home.

Making the transition to an at-home, e-learning environment will not be easy for anyone in the Mariner family (students, teachers, or parents.) However, because

of our limited class sizes and supporting technology already being utilized, we will be able to adjust our programming and get our students into a new learning routine to support their growth remotely until we can all return face-to-face. We are also blessed with a dedicated and qualified faculty that is ready to take on this new challenge, and amazing families that value and support a strong faith-based education. I give thanks to God for the Mariner family every day – now, more than ever!

The school office continues to be closed this week for our official Spring Break period, so no one is available to answer the phone. As we will continue to monitor the situation, we will provide updates as needed. If you have any questions, please feel free to email the school at [olgmariners@olgulf.org](mailto:olgmariners@olgulf.org), and we will provide answers as quickly as possible.

Please keep our faculty in your prayers as they work to support your child's education and know that we will be praying for you and your families as well. May we recall the words of St. Patrick whom we just celebrated:

*"Merciful Father, help us to serve you faithfully in all the situations of life."*

Your servant in Christ,

Theresa M. Dent, Principal

***We are a Catholic educational community providing opportunity for growth in the Light of Christ.***