

March 19, 2020

Dear ASA Families,

“One thing is for sure. We have to do something. We have to do it the best way we know at the moment...If it doesn't turn out right, we can modify it as we go along.” -Franklin D. Roosevelt

It is through the lens of these words that I would like to provide you with the most recent update from All Saints Academy.

First, know that each and every one of our ASA families is in our prayers. There is so much going on right now. Fear of contracting this virus. Figuring out what to do next after a job loss. Dealing with our children as our walls close in on us and patience wears thin. And this is only week one of what we know will be four at the least and very well may be more.

Not all is bleak. We have loved seeing the learning that has gone on these past couple of days. The stories being shared with one another, whether through phone calls or social media have been inspiring. There has been an over pouring of gratitude shown for our teachers and staff members. We are thankful, too, for having such a committed parent community who is doing everything they can for the well-being of their children.

We will continue to take our professional responsibilities of educating your children very seriously. We will continue to provide resources in a variety of platforms to you and your children so access to a Catholic education does not have to be put on hold.

However, please do not misinterpret our professional responsibilities as your first priority. While we are in a midst of a global health emergency, there is no academic emergency. Science tells us our brains cannot learn (or teach for that matter) under stress. Knowing this, take whatever time you need to tackle what is on your list. If that means two-digit addition, great! If that means allowing your students to watch a movie (age appropriate of course) while you sift through unemployment paperwork, go right ahead...the math problems will still be there when the credits roll.

If at any time you need to reach me, please feel free to call/text at (616) 443-8445 or Miss Giroux at (616) 581-3882. If your child needs some words of encouragement we would be happy to speak to them. Brothers and sisters not getting along? FaceTime is a beautiful

thing. Need to shoot a text because you aren't sure what to do for spring break, (not that anything will be open anyway) we will respond as soon as we can.

Other Important information...

Website

Please be sure to check in to asagr.org for the most accurate and up to date information. On the homepage, we've added a button and a banner at the top of the page that links to [the COVID-19 resource page](#), where you can find all of our related parent communications, health resources, learning and tech tools, and how you can continue growing your faith while at home. We have received emails from parents indicating that not all of you have been receiving our communications so please continue checking in to asagr.org.

Free Retired Chromebooks Available for Pick Up

All Saints Academy has free retired Chromebooks available to assist families with online learning for their children. These chromebooks have been retired from the ASA fleet because they can no longer receive security and feature upgrades, and cannot be managed and filtered by our Google Management Console. If you choose to accept a retired chromebook, it is important you understand and agree to the limitations and conditions mentioned in this agreement. [You must fill out this form to request a Chromebook](#). Mr. Debrì will be in contact with those who have requested a device to set up a pick up date and time. Please consider passing on this opportunity if you have an adequate number of devices in your household at this time.

School Finances (Tuition, Parish Offertory, Preschool, etc.)

Please be in contact with Mr. Darrell Beckwith (dbeckwith@asagr.org) if you will be going through financial hardship during the next four weeks so that arrangements may be made with tuition. Open communication will be imperative as we navigate through these times. For those of you who are able, please continue making your normal K-8 tuition payments as they come up. We don't know what the future holds and this may change, but the school is still responsible for bills and payroll, and tuition is our main source of revenue. Again, please reach out if this will cause difficulty for your family at this time.

If you or other family members have not signed up for automatic giving for parish offertory, now would be a great time to do so. Not only is parish offertory our second largest source of revenue, but our Catholic churches will certainly be places where those who are suffering during this pandemic will reach out. With Sunday Mass cancelled until Easter, our collection baskets will not be as full. With less resources available from the parishes, less help will be given. To set up automatic giving at your parish, please visit your parish's website or contact your parish office.

Our preschool parents continually praise us for our “pay only when present” model. While we are proud to be able to offer this service under normal circumstances, we are understandably unable to collect preschool tuition at this time. We simply ask that you keep this in mind as we move forward.

We will be developing a plan for the creation of an All Saints Academy COVID-19 Relief Fund. Knowing that many families and staff members have been displaced from work, parishes will not be celebrating Mass, and the likely cancellation of our second major fundraiser we will want to best meet the financial needs of those in our community. More information to follow.

Child Care Update

We will be updating the status of next week’s Child Care availability tomorrow. [Please resubmit this survey](#) as work situations have changed for families in the last 10 days. We are asking that only those families who are in absolute need of child care complete the survey.

Most Importantly, how are you doing?

[Please take this brief survey](#) to let us know what is working, what isn’t and how we might help you while we are away.

God Bless,

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Our Community Partner/Sponsor of the week is: VanAndel and Flikkema



ASA Sponsors and Community Partners financially support All Saints Academy. Please patronize them whenever possible.