

April 17, 2020

Dear ASA Families,

"Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." - Saint John Paul II

Happy Easter!

We sincerely hope that Spring Break and the celebration of Easter provided some form of respite for you and your family.

After the newness of the first three weeks of remote learning, and adjusting to our new realities and new routines caused by COVID-19, it was good to have a chance both to reset and to look ahead.

As we launch into the remaining seven weeks of this school year, knowing it will look much different than any of us ever imagined, we have set out to improve on those first three weeks. Below are some important items to note moving forward.

Schedule

1. K-8 teachers will be posting the week at a glance by 8:00 PM each Sunday. These posts will be a snapshot of the learning objectives for the week, by the day. You will see learning objectives posted for Monday-Thursday. This information will also be available on class Canvas pages so you can access it directly from there at any time during the week.
2. Preschool teachers will continue to email parents with their objectives/lessons on a M-W-F schedule.
3. We will start each day with an optional all school prayer at 8:45 am via Google Meet. The link to prayer will be shared with you next week. This may serve as a great way to “officially” start the day with your student(s).
4. Friday will focus on opportunities for co-curricular subjects such as Physical Education, Art, Music, Band, Technology, and Spanish. Mrs. Stoner will also be including social-emotional lessons on Fridays. Homeroom teachers will be sharing these resources on their Canvas pages.
5. Teachers have created a [Google Meet schedule](#) for their classes. Each teacher will communicate to you and your child their Meet time(s) during the week. There may also be additional small groups, individual, or optional sessions scheduled by teachers directly with families. Our hope is that each student will be able to be present during these classes, however, we understand that this may not be feasible for your family. Because of this, teachers will be recording each Google Meet and sharing the video with each class or small group. All virtual learning modules/sessions/photos are the property of the school, are not for republication or other use.
6. You can virtually join Fr. Tom from the St. Jude Chapel each Thursday at 9:00 AM as he offers this Mass of the day for the All Saints Academy community. Weekly Mass can be viewed from the [All Saints Academy Facebook page](#).

Curriculum and Work Completion

The All Saints Academy teachers have worked to identify the remaining priority curriculum standards for this school year. Our teachers will be focusing on the essential learnings: what each student needs to know before moving on to the next grade level. We assume that all students will move on in the fall, and we want to get them ready to do so. Teachers will continue to plan and teach each week and will still be assessing and grading student work and giving them feedback. You may access their grades in [Infinite Campus](#) to keep up on progress.

Due dates for assignments will be communicated and also posted on Canvas and in Infinite Campus. Teachers will continue to communicate with students and families and be flexible as various challenges or individual learning needs arise.

Please be aware that assignments not submitted by the posted due dates will be marked as “missing” in Infinite Campus. However work will generally be accepted after due dates, within reason, and according to communications and specific timeline plans teachers have established with students and their parents.

Time Spent on “School”

The structure of a typical school day is very different now that kids are learning remotely. Although teachers have recommended schedules and parents have worked hard to implement routines, our ASA students no longer have the rhythms of lunch, recess, and special events. They aren’t transitioning through the hallways, spending time lining up, unpacking at the beginning of the day and packing up at the end. All of that time adds to a normal school day and isn’t built into a virtual one.

Experts say the hours don’t really translate to the home environment. Knowing this, please consult the table below if you are having a difficult time determining if your child is doing too much or not enough. These are simple guidelines, and not rigorous expectations from All Saints Academy.

Grade	Total Minutes	Length of Sustained Attention
Preschool	20-60	3-5 Minutes
K-2	45-90	5-10 Minutes
3-5	60-120	10-15 Minutes
6-8	15-30 (Class) 90-180 (Total)	1 Subject Area/Class

Chromebooks

We have been working to get everyone connected via Canvas and Infinite Campus and with devices. If you still need help with account access let us know! Please either contact your child's teacher or Karen Szczytko.

We have a limited number of chromebooks available for sale. These chromebooks were in use at school this year, have updated operating systems, and will continue to receive Chrome updates at least until September 2021. They are available on a first come-first served basis for \$75. If you previously took home a retired chromebook and would like to exchange it for one of these newer models, please do so! This will free up some retired chromebooks for those who do not have a device, and cannot afford the newer ones. If you would like to purchase a newer chromebook, [please complete this purchase agreement](#).

Drop off/Pick Up of Materials

We will continue to abide by the Governor's "Stay Home. Stay Safe" executive order as it pertains to our buildings. It is our hope that after April 30th we will be able to organize a pickup schedule for any personal items remaining at school. We will also be scheduling a pick up/drop off date for print materials related to academic instruction in May. If you need something before we publish that date please let us know.

Service Hours

We have had students continue to submit service hours since school buildings were closed in March. As a core value at All Saints Academy, we are so proud of our families continued efforts to serve! We, of course, want all of our community to make smart decisions and stay safe. Although we encourage all students to serve their families and communities during this time, we will be waiving our service expectations of completed hours for the 2019-2020 school year.

Graduation

8th grade graduation remains on the calendar for Monday, June 1st. Whether this important milestone will be celebrated on this date will depend on future executive orders, specifically whether public Masses are able to take place. We hope to have more information in May and will communicate plans in advance. Rest assured that we will mark this day with the All Saints Academy class of 2020 in a special way, even if that celebration looks a little different from previous year's celebrations.

God Bless,

Mr. Michael Debri
Executive Director/Elementary Principal
616-447-2997, ext. 1202
mdebri@asagr.org

Miss Abby Giroux
Assistant Principal

616-363-7725, ext. 1105
agiroux@asagr.org

Our Community Partner/Sponsor of the week is: West Michigan Band & Instruments



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