



COVENANT CLASSICAL SCHOOL

IN ALL THINGS CHRIST PREEMINENT

ERIC COOK, HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

Good afternoon! Below are a number of important updates about the latest developments and announcements in response to the COVID-19 situation.

Distance Learning Transition

Our faculty and staff have been meeting via Zoom this week to prepare for our transition to distance learning. I have appointed Mr. Elizalde, Academic Dean, to be our Distance Learning Tsar (seemed like the appropriate title to me!). Along with Mr. Stevens and Mrs. Beck, Mr. Elizalde is giving structure, training, and guidelines for teachers this entire week. Our teachers are giving their very best effort to serve your family well. Please be patient as we work out the kinks. The plan will be communicated to you this Friday. As new developments and recommendations emerge each day, we are preparing for the possibility of an extended period of distance learning. We have not made any decisions beyond the two weeks, but we are carefully monitoring things and hope to know more soon.

CCS Events

Some of you have asked about field trips, sports, and other school events. All events and extracurriculars within the two weeks are cancelled. Decisions beyond that will be made once we have a clearer picture about if/when we return to school and under what conditions. However, based on what we know from the CDC about the threshold of gatherings, we have decided to cancel Grandparents' Day and the Golf Scramble.

Social Distancing

All of you have heard the recommendations from our local and national leaders about social distancing. I want to encourage all of you to be wise and adhere to the recommendations - even outside of school.

Pick-Up Process

In order for students to complete their distance learning assignments, parents will come to campus to pick up their children's supplies and books on Friday, March 20. Grammar families will pick up from the hallways of the grammar buildings. Bags will be provided and labeled with students' names and lined up in the hallways outside of their homeroom class. 5th and 6th grade parents need to bring a bag or tote to clean out their child's locker. The doors to the buildings will be propped open starting at 8:00. Only one parent may enter the building per family unit. If you bring your children, please keep them in your car.

Upper School families will pick up books and supplies from their child's locker. You will need to empty the contents of your child's locker. Please bring a bag or tote to carry your child's belongings home. Again, only one parent per family may enter the building. Students should remain in the car if they are in attendance. Please adhere to this pickup schedule for Friday so we can keep the number of parents in a building as low as possible at any given time:

Time	Last Name
8:00 a.m. - 8:20 a.m.	A-B
8:30 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.	C-D
9:00 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.	E-F
9:30 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.	G-H
10:00 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.	I-L
10:30 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.	M-O
11:00 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.	P-R
11:30 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.	S
12:00 p.m. - 12:20 p.m.	T-Z

If you or a family member are feeling ill or you are uncomfortable coming on campus, please let either Mrs. Beck or Mr. Stevens know so that we can arrange delivery of your child's materials.

Quality Quarantine Time

In this unique moment, most of us are finding ourselves with more time at home and more time together. You may already be finding it difficult to use your time in meaningful ways. Most of us are not used to this level of relative isolation and silence. (OK, it is actually *not* that quiet in my house). However, this is an opportunity for each family to "redeem the time" as Paul said to the Ephesians.

Blaise Pascal once wrote that "All of humanity's problems stem from man's inability to sit quietly in a room alone." We fear the silence and quiet. We tend to occupy our time with activity and neglect the opportunity stillness provides to commune with God and each other in profound ways. Thomas Merton said, "In solitude I have at last discovered that You have desired the love of my heart, O my God, the love of my heart as it is. In solitude, one disappears into the loving, fruitful silence of God and is transformed by the experience!" While we are not exactly experiencing the solitude Merton is envisioning, we certainly have more time to reflect and connect. Let's take the opportunity to show our children how to create quality quarantine time.

Of course, we can also redeem the time by just having fun together. My family has had chess tournaments, reading time, and of course, lots of basketball. My sister sent me a package with origami, crossword puzzles, and a bunch of games the kids would like. And, since March Madness is canceled, I am showing my boys all the national championships that Kentucky played in over the last 30 years (There are a lot! More than your team played in... just sayin'). I am praying for all of you and asking God to make the most of this surreal time in history.

In Christ,

Eric Cook
Head of School

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STAY CONNECTED:

