



March 20, 2020

Dear Academy Families,

We want to provide you with an update regarding the Academy community and relay our pride in what has been a united, uplifting response to the challenging set of circumstances related to the COVID-19 outbreak and the ever-changing world in which we live. To say that this community has risen to the challenge is an understatement. Our students have embraced the Continuous Learning Plan and diligently and responsibly attended online classes this week, and by all accounts, our academic program is advancing and meeting the needs of all learners. Of course, all of this would not have been possible without the unwavering support of each and every member of our caring community: our teachers who have adapted so well to this new model of learning and creatively delivered instruction, engaged students in meaningful learning and, most important, nurtured vital social connections; our administrative team who has zealously managed our continuous learning and social media accounts to maintain vital communication and relationships with all of you; our parents who have faithfully encouraged and supported all of the above with positivity and heart; and, our dear students who have demonstrated maturity, resilience, and great energy while transitioning to something so new and unfamiliar.

Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers. We miss our students' bright smiles and the joy and energy they bring to our school each day. Our lives have been dramatically altered, but when the time is right, we will be together again and pick-up where we left off. We will work as one loving community to put the pieces of this intricate puzzle back together, we will reconnect and finish the year strong, and we will celebrate our seniors and do our very best to give The Class of 2020 a memorable, albeit delayed, end-of-year senior experience.

There is no doubt that our prayer life will sustain us in the difficult days ahead. That is why we continue to post a daily prayer and encourage you to remain committed to the Lenten Devotional; prayer is a constant, prayer feeds hope, prayer unites us, and prayer is powerful. Our team is here to support the social and emotional needs of our community. Please take part in our collective gratitude journal. We are truly grateful for our yoga instructor who is posting 10-minute yoga and mindfulness videos on Instagram, our dance instructors who will host weekly dance and movement classes via Google Meet, and this incredible community—a bright light illuminating our path.

We leave you with something to consider and inspire—may this quote provide hope to you and your families in the days and weeks ahead as there is no doubt that “social distancing” will take its toll on our psyche. We ask you to take solace in the fact that we are better equipped to deal with adversity than we think. The human spirit is so strong and resilient.

*“Promise me you’ll always remember: You’re braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.” Christopher Robin to Winnie the Pooh, A.A. Milne*

Please be well and remain safely at home with your loved ones.

Grace and blessing,

Mrs. Burek & Mrs. Corvo