

March 26, 2020

Dear OLW Families:

As spring break comes to a close, we need to look forward and prepare for the weeks ahead. The Archdiocese of Chicago has not yet set a date for the reopening of schools. We do know that we will be out of school at least through April 7th as mandated by the state Governor.

With that in mind, we will be resuming e-learning on March 30th. **E-learning will take place from March 30th -April 3rd and on April 6th and 7th.**

E-learning is an essential part of maintaining learning during these unique times. Students in K-8 are expected to complete assignments provided by teachers. Work in grade 4-8 is being graded as usual, and K-3 teachers are looking at work to gauge how well their students are meeting grade level standards.. We hope that preschool families will be able to take advantage of work sent by teachers when possible. If there are any issues throughout the e-learning process, please reach out to your teacher. We will do our best to help you work through any challenges.

E-Learning - What's NEW starting on March 30th.

Zoom Meetings - In addition to the regular daily assignments, students receive from teachers, all homeroom teachers will also be meeting daily with students for up to 30 minutes using Zoom. For those of you that haven't used Zoom yet, there are some directions included in this email.. Teachers will send out links that can be used to access the Zoom meetings. Since the 5th-8th graders have their own devices, homeroom teachers will select their own time for these mandatory meetings which will also serve as part of their religion class. Students in PK-4th are highly encouraged to participate when feasible. A schedule has been created to stagger meeting times for preschool-4th to help those families with multiple students sharing their own device or a parent's device. Each PK-4th grade teacher will be using their Zoom time differently to best serve the needs of their students.

Morning Announcements - Each morning at 8:30 the school will send out a school messenger email with a video that includes the pledge and prayer for the day. Please feel free to watch this at your convenience. These emails may also include additional daily updates, so please check them out.

Wildcat Wednesday - Students are encouraged to wear spirit wear or school colors for the Wednesday Zoom meetings to show off their Wayside Wildcat pride!

Letter from Dr. Rigg, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of Chicago can be found [here](#).

This closure has required that we cancel a number of this year's special events. Some of these may be considered for a new date dependent on when schools are reopened.

New Cancellations

- Fun Lunch - April 3rd
- Living Stations - April 9th
- Literacy Night - April 16th
- Book Fair - April 16th and 17th

Previously Cancelled

- 8th grade Holocaust Museum field trip - April 3rd
- 8th grade Catigny History Museum field trip - April 8th
- 6th grade Camp Timberlee field trip - April 14th and 15th
- Middle School Dance - April 3rd
- Band Field Museum field trip - April 30th

Please continue to pray for all those impacted by the COVID-19 and all of the essential workers putting themselves at risk each day. Sheltering in place now and following social distancing is essential to helping stop the spread of this virus and will hopefully allow us to return to school sooner.

Sincerely,

Mr. David Wood