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April 1, 2020

Dear St. Andrew's families,

Good morning. While it is natural to feel anxious in these current and unprecedented times with coronavirus, I just wanted to reassure you that St. Andrew's Episcopal School is doing everything possible to keep our families safe and to assure that our students are having an exceptional distance learning experience. We are taking the best available advice from the State and the CDC, and we take this advice seriously. We will continue to keep the St. Andrew's community informed through email and social media as we navigate this new normal together.

I am most impressed with our administration team, faculty, and staff for their resilience during this time and their selfless work they have been doing to benefit our students and their families. I want to also thank you for your support in helping to facilitate distance learning at home. I truly believe this attitude of collaborative support will get us through this crisis and in the end, St. Andrew's will be a much stronger community.

There are a few announcements to share with you:

- We want to assure you that the schoolwork St. Andrew's students are completing during the distance learning process will be sufficient for promotion to the next grade level.
- Families, please know that we recognize the challenges that distance learning can present. It is perfectly understandable that some of your children may feel frustrated at times. Please feel free to communicate any issues with the teachers—we are here to help! Our teachers are eager to stay connected to their students, and to help with any individualized concerns. In addition, Mrs. Rebecca Fritz (student support coordinator), Mrs. Annie Goldman (school counselor), and Division Heads are here to serve your needs.
- Starting Monday, April 6th, the Middle School will move to a four-day learning schedule with Friday being a flex day. This flex day gives our middle school students a day to complete any unfinished assignments and to participate in any of the optional enrichment activities that are being offered. This also gives the Middle School teachers a day to plan for the next school week.
- Starting Monday, April 6th, the Lower School will move to a four-day learning schedule with Friday being a review day. This means on Fridays the Lower School students will complete a review lesson in language arts and math. The goal for this review is that the students can complete the assignment in approximately 30 minutes. The remainder of the day is an opportunity for the lower school students to participate in our optional enrichment activities.
- The Easter break has been revised from what was listed on the 2019/2020 school calendar. The new holiday period will begin on Friday, April 10 through Tuesday, April 14. Distance learning will resume on Wednesday, April 15. This new schedule will help our students to resume their learning schedule without much disruption.
- We will enjoy a Virtual Spirit Week starting on Monday, April 6th. Please encourage your children to dress up each day and send photos to [twitter@standrewsepicopalschool.org](https://twitter.com/standrewsepicopalschool.org). We hope everyone participates in the fun! Virtual Spirit Week Dress Up Schedule:
 - Monday, April 6 - Crazy Hat or Hair Day
 - Tuesday, April 7 - Pajama Day
 - Wednesday, April 8 - Decade Day
 - Thursday, April 9 - Red Shirt or St. Andrew's Shirt Day
 - Friday, April 10 - Good Friday, No Classes

I am continuing to pray that we will be reunited together as a School community soon. My virtual door remains open during this time. If you wish to contact me, please do not hesitate to do so.

Thank you for your support, and have a great week.

Kathryn Fitzpatrick
Head of School