



ALL SAINTS CATHEDRAL SCHOOL
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Carla Sarauw
Head of School

Hugh Arnold
Asst. Head of School

August 21, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We have one more week before school resumes for our students. I am excited! Even though we will be starting virtually, it will be a good year for the students. Let us not get lost in the fact that we have to start virtually; this situation is beyond our control. Let us say the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi and move forward with hope and faith.

Those of you who are returning parents, you know that our virtual teaching is not busy work. Our teachers actually teach and students have the opportunity to participate and ask questions. Our teachers use a variety of visual aides to ensure that our students are getting the best. Guess what! Our teachers are returning charged and much better prepared to teach online. They have done a lot of professional development especially over the past few days to become even more proficient as virtual teachers. Trust me; it is going to be a great school year! There is so much in store for your children to give them an excellent education. As I watched our teachers over the past few days, I could feel their enthusiasm as they learned and shared ideas.

I have read some questions from my last letter and I would like to clarify some misunderstandings. The students are only required to wear their uniform shirt/blouses with the patch. Grades 2 to 12 can add a long pant of any color or a pair of long jeans. The students in Grades Jr. K to 1 may wear a pair of shorts with their blouses/shirts. Hair must be properly groomed as though they are attending school on campus. Boys' hair should not be in braids. High school boys are not allowed to have facial hair. Please be guided by the rules in the Handbook. There will be no eating or drinking in class except for water. Students are to stay focused in class for its duration. If a student needs to use the restroom, they must seek permission from the teacher. They must be punctual to every class and come with all tools prepared to learn.

Last school year we had a number of students who were always late in turning in assignments or not doing them at all. We encountered too many parents making excuses for their children's late work. This is not acceptable. Students will lose points for late assignments or get zero for work not turned in. There will be no need for any parent to talk about having to scan papers and resubmit them. The work will be sent in such a manner that is student friendly and easy to be resubmitted. Parents, you will be told how

to track your child's assignments in Google Classroom. In addition we will be using Class Dojo which has much more that will help you to track what your child is doing.

I would like to strongly caution parents NOT to do your child's work for him/her and just give them answers. We saw that very well last school year. Too many students' grades took a sharp rise which was out of the norm. We saw students move 2 and 3 grade levels in iReady within 2 months. This is unrealistic; however, this came from parents giving answers to students rather than letting them struggle, go through the tutorials and learn. As a result, those students began to struggle in the next grade level. Students must be helped; not told the answers.

Please provide your child with a quiet place with no distractions for your child to work. This is very important. Please let them know that all school rules apply for virtual school. It is important that our students realize that they are in school mode when classes are in session. Love and encourage them to do their best. They are capable.

Parents, as stated, we are looking forward to a great year. Please note that your child will be effectively taught. It will not be busy work. Thank you for the opportunity to provide your child with a top notch education. Our teachers stand ready to assist. I am here to help in any way I can.

Sincerely,

Carla Sarauw
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