

March 16, 2020

Dear Bellarmine parents,

Due to today's [SHELTER-IN-PLACE ORDER](#), we will extend our remote learning plan through April 9th; Spring Break will begin as planned on April 10th and extend through April 17th. [Our goal is to return to campus on April 20th.](#)

As a parent of two teens myself, I understand how challenging it is to help our kids to understand the importance of sheltering in place. One of the great characteristics of what our students provide is service. And right now, the most important service they can provide to the community is to follow this order so that we can all combat the spread of this virus and protect everyone with whom we come in contact. At the same time, it is important that the boys not spend all of their time in front of a screen. Michelle Toy sent them some great tips for exercising at home, and the [FAQ](#) from County Health outlines what activities are permitted.

We still plan to resume remote learning on Wednesday, March 18th at 9:15AM. Towards the end of the week, we will solicit feedback from your sons as to how things are going with their courses so that we can make some adjustments next week. We appreciate your patience as we work through the transition to remote learning.

Earlier today, I had the chance to watch a webinar on [PARENTING IN THE AGE OF CORONAVIRUS](#), hosted by Julie Lythcott-Haims. In it, the discussion panel emphasizes the need for routines, sleep and exercise. They encourage parents to use the time as an opportunity to have fun together whenever possible. They also discuss what to do if you and your partner differ in your approach to parenting through this time. I found it to be a very informative hour.

I have to admit that lately I have not been as present as I want to be to my family. The news and latest updates have left me feeling distracted and harried. This webinar, along with a few notes and calls from friends and colleagues, helped me to remember the importance of focusing on the essentials. It made me reflect on how I might be more present to those around me. How am I modeling self-care for my family members? What role is prayer playing in my daily routine? How can we add a little joy and laughter into our evening routine?

Your partnership in this work brings me great comfort. I am confident that together we can support one another through these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Kristina Luscher  
Principal