



# Valley Stream Christian Academy

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4/8/20

Dear VSCA Families,

On Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, I sent out an email about the Executive Order made by the Governor that schools would continue with remote learning through the Spring Recess. I mentioned that I was in utter disbelief about this decision. I explained how VSCA would work a schedule that would be voluntary during our regular Easter break. In fact, the schedule has been written and was ready to go out this morning. In the past 24 hours, I have been unsettled. By making this schedule, some parents felt the need for their child to follow it, rather than miss anything, even though it was not mandatory. This would mean that for all intents and purposes, there would be no real break. I have wrestled with what the public schools are doing and how we compared. I have been assured by our local public school principals that we have done MORE than they have provided. In addition, because we already had established communication with parents and students through RenWeb, we were able to start remote learning seven to ten days before our public school counter parts. It is with confidence that I can say we have done our due diligence (and then some) with the level of academic course work that has been delivered.

I have had the opportunity to speak with the principals of three local Christian schools with whom we have a wonderful, working relationship. Two of them are continuing with their scheduled break, one is taking NO days off (including this Thursday and Friday). So as you can see, the response to the Executive Order has been varied. Also, in reading about the order, it appears that it stated, "public and charter schools." In many previous announcements, the words "non-public schools" was included.

Lastly, we have ALL been impacted by this pandemic. As long as we have VSCA families or staff members who have tested positive or lost a loved one, we are ALL affected. We need time to regroup and have our souls and spirits refreshed. To that end, I have made the decision that VSCA WILL BE CLOSED from Friday, April 10, 2020 through Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. We will resume our regularly scheduled remote classes on Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

The following is our abbreviated schedule for tomorrow, Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Attendance is **OPTIONAL**. These live classes will be a time of fun activities! No new material will be presented.

ALL classes will have ONE virtual Zoom class.

K-5<sup>th</sup> will have their regularly scheduled morning class. No other virtual classes will be taking place (including Art, music, or PE).

6<sup>th</sup> Grade-- meet for their regularly scheduled Social Studies class at 10:40. No 9am PE class.

7<sup>th</sup> Grade-meet for their regularly scheduled 10:40 English Class

8<sup>th</sup> Grade-Meet for their regularly scheduled 11:30 Social Studies Class

9<sup>th</sup> Grade-Meet for their regularly scheduled 9:50 Social Studies Class

10<sup>th</sup> Grade-Meet for regularly scheduled 9 am Chemistry Class

11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> Meet for regularly scheduled 11:30 Leadership Class

ALL of the above classes will be focusing on mental wellness-in other words, fun activities!

For those who may feel the need for some academic stimulation during our break, on Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, teachers will be posting VOLUNTARY review and/or challenging work in RenWeb. For elementary students, this will be under "Reading Lesson Plans". For 6-12<sup>th</sup>, this will be posted in each individual teacher's "Lesson Plans" on RenWeb. Reminder: This work is NOT mandatory.

Don't forget to get outside as much as possible (following all of the CDC's safety guidelines)!

I deeply apologize for the changes that seem to be coming on a weekly (if not daily) basis. We are all doing our best to walk this journey, with all its twists, turns, and bumps. I continue to be thankful to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who causes us to triumph through ALL circumstances. I encourage you to remember what it says in James chapter one: "Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking ANYTHING." Let us open wide the doors of our hearts and minds to the Holy Spirit. He is here to bring comfort, wisdom, and peace. He is moving, He is transforming! What a WONDERFUL risen Savior we have!! Hallelujah!

Let me say it again:

**VSCA WILL BE CLOSED**  
**FROM FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2020**  
**THROUGH SUNDAY, APRIL 19<sup>th</sup>**

If you have an emergency during this recess, please send an email to me, [lfowley@vscaschool.org](mailto:lfowley@vscaschool.org) and I will do my best to respond as soon as possible.

I pray you all have a blessed Resurrection Sunday!

Many Blessings to You All,

Leslie Fowley