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5/8/20

Dear VSCA Families,

I hope this email finds you well and settling in to somewhat of a routine. New, optional Zoom meetings have been added to the schedule and we hope your child will enjoy some of these added activities. At the same time, we also recognize that the LAST thing some of you are looking for is more Zoom time for your child; which brings me to my next "announcement." We continue to struggle with balancing Zoom time and independent work. Because each family's dynamic is different, this will remain a challenge. It is imperative that you know we are here for you, not just academically, but also emotionally. To that end, I want to give you the okay to say, "Not today." What do I mean by that? If you or your child is having a particularly difficult time, I wholeheartedly give you permission to contact your child's teacher and say, "Today we will be taking a Mental Health Day." No Zoom time and, if necessary, no work at all to be done that day. Know that we will understand. That's it, as simple as that. Also, if you feel that your child would benefit from a phone call from their teacher or any other staff member, please do not hesitate to contact us. We can cheer up or console - whatever is needed!

It is hard to believe that we have been at this "distance learning," "remote learning," or as many are calling it, "crisis learning" for 8 weeks. If you had told me on March 1<sup>st</sup> that by April 1<sup>st</sup>, the world as we know it would be turned upside down, I would not have believed it. Masks? Gloves? 6 feet apart? Staying at home? Parks, stores, etc. closed? That only happens in the movies. Well, I don't know what movie we're in, but I'm looking for a happy ending and I'm certainly not interested in a sequel. But movies have screen writers, as do we. We have an AUTHOR and FINISHER of our faith. So however this plays out, I am certain of one thing - we are the victors! The end of the story has already been written and we win the battle!

To God be ALL the Glory!

Leslie Fowley