

**April 3, 2020**

**Dear Parent/Guardian,**

**Following Governor Whitmer's orders, we will continue our eLearning and follow our school calendar. School resumes on Monday, April 6th. (April 9th, Holy Thursday is a ½ day. Good Friday and Easter Monday are days of NO SCHOOL.) We took the first two weeks to ease ourselves into this new platform of teaching and learning. It hasn't been without frustrations and tears, but we are committed to giving your child(ren) the excellent Catholic education we know that we provide. We will streamline the daily process by supplying a daily agenda for all students Grades K-3 sent to parents. Grades 4-8 will continue with their regular routine using Google Classroom. In order to be highly successful, we will need your help. We are in this together! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BIRvE9dKWQc>**

**We are expecting that each student completes quality work in a timely fashion. We understand that the home "classroom" may be a little more challenging in providing supervision while working from home. Assignments will be graded and count for Fourth Quarter. Assignments will not be marked late if an email has been sent to the teacher explaining the situation. A zero will be placed in PowerSchool for missing assignments for students in Grades 4-8. All teachers will reach out to students and parents to be certain they are fully participating in their learning. Please be sure and stay connected. Communication is key to this venture, just as if we were at the school building.**

**All work will be managed through Google Classroom. Students will read the daily agenda and complete tasks. Teachers will provide written instruction or video instruction, some recorded, some live. We are doing our best to manage the live sessions and will record and post after each session. Teachers will also maintain "office hours" through Zoom from 1pm-2pm daily. The link to these "office hours" will be located in the banner of each Google Classroom. (These "office hours" will begin on April 14th. We need next week to set these up and practice.) These "office hours" are for students and parents to ask questions. Parents may also email or send REMIND text to teachers. Messages sent through email or REMIND may take 24 hours to receive a response. All homeroom teachers will hold a Zoom Social Time for time to bond once each week. This time is very important during this time of social distancing. We all need this interaction! Those invitations will also be posted on your child's Google Classroom. Below are some rules we have found work best when attending a Zoom Conference.**

**Zoom Conferencing:**

- 1. Mandatory (If a conflict arises, please contact the teacher.)**

2. **Must enable VIDEO and AUDIO.**
3. **Students must be dressed and sitting in a chair, just as if they were at school.**
  1. **A student may be “removed” from the session if he/she is not ready to learn.**
4. **When you enter the conference, enter on mute. This eliminates the feedback noise as well as keeps everyone focused on the speaker.**
5. **When you want to speak, unmute and talk. You may also raise your hand.**

**To help aid your child through the remainder of the school year, we suggest that your child have a designated “classroom” in the house, a quiet place with minimal distractions and a regular routine, beginning school at the same time each day. Below are the Diocesan Educational Guidelines for eLearning by grade level:**

**Preschool: 60 minutes/day**

**Grades K-1: 90 minutes/day**

**Grades 2-3: 120 minutes/day**

**Grades 4-8: 180 minutes/day**

**These are guidelines. Each child is different. Some students may complete all assignments in less time. If your child is needing more time than listed above to complete the daily agenda, please contact his/her teacher. We want every child to maintain a high level of interest in their learning.**

**As always, please continue to pray. We are so blessed to have a beautiful faith community. To keep in routine, join us for our regularly scheduled 8am All School Masses on Mondays and/or every day, if your schedule permits. These are live-streamed on FB and through our parish website, [www.hfgb.org](http://www.hfgb.org).**

**Please share this message with your child with love from our staff. :)**



**I will teach you in a room.  
I will teach you now on Zoom.  
I will teach you in your house.  
I will teach you with a mouse.  
I will teach you here and there.  
I will teach you because I care.  
So just do your very best.  
And do not worry about the rest.**

**To our Eighth Grade Parents: We have some special things “in the works” for our 8th Graders. As far as any sort of gatherings, we will have to wait to hear what will be permitted. We will keep you posted!**

**We miss you!**

**We are thankful for you!**

**We pray for you!**

**Stay safe!**

**God bless you!**

**Mrs. Theresa Purcell**

**Principal**

**Holy Family Catholic School**