

April 20, 2020

Dear St. Catharine Families,

Thank you for your continued support during these very difficult and trying times. Rest assured that we continue to work hard at not only learning new methods of instruction via distance learning, but also ensuring that we continue to teach specific standards that must be taught before the end of this 4th quarter.

I continue to stay in touch with the teachers (sometimes on a daily basis) as we support one another as a staff. One of the on-going concerns for all teachers during this time period is the social and emotional health of our students. These students are always involved with each other's lives. In addition, there is one thing about sharing work or thoughts in a classroom and trying to do the same via technology. I'm sure that they miss (as we all do) the social interaction. I will send out in a separate document a couple of suggestions for parents if you are looking for support for your children (our students) who are emotionally struggling. In addition, as a reminder, we still have access to our counselor who has been part of our school on Mondays. If you think your child could use someone to talk through their concerns or struggles, please just email me and I will be in contact with our counselor.

As we approach the half-way point in this Fourth Quarter, I am asking that you continue to stay in touch with your child/children's teachers if there are any concerns. They continue to be available during the day and will return your messages. In addition, interims will be sent out to parents for those students who are not currently meeting any particular standard. Teachers will also send out information as to whether your child will require or be recommended for summer tutoring. I will include a SPICE form for parents who might need some financial support.

This week marks Earth Day Week. It is a celebration of the 50th year of the beginning of Earth Day (April 22) celebrations. It also marks the 5th anniversary of the papal encyclical "Laudito Si". There are probably many resources on various websites for activities that might be of interest to your children. It looks like it should be a fairly good week outside, so maybe there is some time to appreciate what we have been blessed with in the world we live in.

We will continue to stay in touch base with you regarding any updates on the possibility of school openings. As of this date, we have no additional information. The teachers and myself continue to keep your families in our thoughts and prayers. Please know that we will continue to do our best in providing instruction even though it is through distance learning!

Sincerely,

Janet L. Weisner
Principal