



March 20, 2020

Dear SJCA Elementary Families:

Distance Learning will begin on Monday, March 20th 2020. Below are some directions and answers to frequently asked questions and some tips for parents.

Questions and Answers

When will teachers begin sending resources to families?

Teachers have begun contacting students and families this week with information about learning resources.

- Grades 3 - 5 Students will utilize resources from their teachers via Google Classroom and Seesaw.
- Grades K - 2 Students will utilize resources sent via email and seesaw. Hardcopy packets were mailed to all families that requested mail or pick-up. Due to CDC guidelines we decided to mail all packets Thursday that were requested.
- Preschool - Students will utilize resources sent via email and seesaw. Packets for every preschool family including art supplies and resources were mailed on Thursday.

How often will teachers post learning resources for students?

We are asking teachers to email or have updated activities posted throughout the week via their Google Classroom, Seesaw or through email. The grade level teachers Kindergarten through 2nd grade have created google hyperlink documents. That includes the assignments for two weeks.

How can students and families communicate with teachers during the closure?

Email continues to be an effective communication strategy. Teachers will also be setting up zoom meetings and google hangouts with their students. They will also be providing short mini-lessons that may be live, recorded and shared with students.

Will learning resources be graded?

Teachers will interact with students and assess understanding of the standards using various formative assessments. We will be monitoring our ability to do this with our students and continue to share the progress.

Who can I contact if I'm having trouble accessing the resources?

Teachers can provide help with access. If teachers are unable to provide initial

assistance, they will be able to contact district personnel to get an answer to questions. Given that staff are working remotely, it may take some time to get back with a response in these situations. You may also email our Technology Director, William Bernhardt at wberhardt@sjcawi.org.

How much time should my child spend on the learning resources that are provided each day?

Time spent on learning resources will vary based by grade level and age. Teachers can provide guidance for approximate daily time for learning activities. Parents also know their children best. For some children highly structured time will work best. For others, breaking up learning time throughout the day will be a better option. **For the lower elementary students is 2 hours, upper elementary is 4 hours.**

These times have been recommended by DPI and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.
Tips for Parents

- Plug in your electronic devices for learning at night.
- Set up a space and place in your home where children can learn including writing utensils and paper.
- Have school usernames and passwords near the learning space.
- Please be patient and understand our teachers are doing their best. Many of our teachers are parents and they will also have lots of responsibilities with their own families during this time.
- This is new for ALL of us and we will learn together. It's okay to make mistakes and the truth is we probably will make some.
- My staff needs your encouragement and support right now, not additional requests at this time. Thank you for understanding.
- Just breathe and take it slow.
- Pray for all of us. WE ARE ONE!

Blessings,
Mrs. Santarelli



Psalm 37:5 - "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will act." Let us live with fortitude during this time of uncertainty with total confidence in the power of God.

Philippians 4:13 - "There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength."

Trust and fortitude. Shared from Fr. Todd