

Principal's Weekly Update - April 9th, 2020

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you. (Ephesians 1:17-18)

Hello SCCS Families!

I hope that you all had a nice Spring Break, and were able to enjoy some peace. As I shared in my last update, I have been keeping all of you in my daily prayers and hope that you are doing as well as can be expected. Please take the time to read this update to the end, as there is very valuable information in it.

As all of you are aware, over Spring Break the Chief Provincial Public Health Officer has suspended all classroom learning from Kindergarten to Gr. 12 for this school year. Classes will resume when it is safe to do so, and this will be based on public health recommendations. **Therefore, even though school is closed to our students, the expectation is that student learning will continue for the remainder of the school year.** With teacher direction and support, students will learn at home, with parents supporting this learning in a home environment. Please know, all of us at SCCS know that this is an extremely challenging time for our students and for you as parents. We hope that you understand that it is also a challenging time for teachers as well, as we learn new ways to teach and assess. This is new territory for all of us, and together we will get through this. Most importantly, learning and assessment will continue as teachers support your child's learning.

As teachers continue to plan for your children, they will be flexible and keep in mind that everyone's well-being is important. Teachers will also continue with regular personal connections with students/families, via email, phone, or by other resources. Teachers will continue to set goals for your child, and assess their progress. **All students will receive a final report card in June.** Therefore, going forward, teachers will be asking students to submit given assignments which will be assessed/graded for their Term 3 marks. Teachers will also be providing an opportunity for parents to have a Parent/Teacher Conference toward the end of April. More information will follow.

As parents, it is important to support your child's teacher(s) to ensure that learning is able to continue, to encourage your child to continue with their school learning plans while at home, to look for opportunities to encourage learning within daily home life, and maintain ongoing communication with your child's teacher(s).

Students are encouraged to establish daily routines for engaging in learning experiences, actively participate in their learning and complete assigned work as possible, set goals for themselves, and make sure to talk to parents or teachers about any concerns or issues they may encounter.

Going forward, with the announcement that classroom learning has been suspended for the school year, teachers will be following suggestions from a Kindergarten to Gr. 8 Planning Committee at the direction of the Dept. of Education, who is one of the

Response Planning Committees assigned during COVID-19. This committee has been established to help educators and students navigate education and assessment while schools are closed for learning. Therefore, you will see changes, but please be assured that the high quality education your child is receiving will continue, and is part of our goal going forward. Many of you have reached out to share your thoughts on teachers planning to date, and that is greatly appreciated.

I continue to be actively involved in ongoing teleconferences with the Dept. of Education, as well as weekly Principal Teleconferences with our Superintendent, and Board Teleconferences as well. Staff are also in daily Zoom Staff Meetings with myself, and Grade Level Meetings are happening on a regular basis. Teachers have been in the building preparing lessons, cleaning, packing up school supplies, and personal items/lockers. They are also continuing to work on marking lessons and communicating with families.

Communication is flowing quickly, as are the changes, and often changes happen daily. I will continue to keep you updated as developments and changes occur, and always appreciate hearing from you as well.

Let's take a look at some other important information that you need to be aware of going forward:

1. We have been advised to have **all student supplies picked up by families**. Therefore, on **April 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22**, families are being asked to drop by the school to do that. Student supplies from desks/lockers have been packed up in bags for you, and I would ask that you click on the link below to sign up for a pick up time that is convenient for you. If you are also picking up for another family at the same time, I ask that you include that family's name along with your own, so the correct student bags can be ready when you arrive. All bags will be put outside the front school doors for you to take. Staff will be monitoring your arrival. **At the same time**, I would ask that if you have any of the following, to please drop them into the boxes that you will see outside when you arrive. They are: library books, guided reading books, "Gel" books from the Gr. 8 classroom library, Musical books, any "mail" you might have for the office, homework assignments that need to be returned. Items in the boxes will be sorted by staff once the family drop off/pick up has been completed.

[LINK TO BOOK A TIME SLOT FOR STUDENT MATERIAL & MAIL PICKUP & DROPOFF | WINNIPEG HARVEST DONATIONS](#)

2. There will also a box for **Winnipeg Harvest** food item donations. Please see the letter below.

Manitoba Catholic Schools Easter Outreach for Winnipeg Harvest Social Justice during this time of Social Distancing

In the coming Easter season, we are called more than ever to be people of joy, sharing the good news of God's love with others. As I am sure you are aware, there has been an exponential increase in need at food banks across Canada due to unstable employment for so many of our neighbours. Our school community has been invited to

participate in the **Manitoba Catholic Schools Easter Outreach for Winnipeg Harvest**. Catholic schools around our city will be collecting non-perishable food items over the month of April. Here is how it will work:

What is needed: Any non-perishable food items. For a list of the most wanted items please click here <https://winnipegharvest.org/donate/top-ten-most-wanted-food-items/>

Thank you for supporting this outreach! I hope this important initiative allows our school community to feel a sense of connection and purpose in this time of isolation.

3. Even though our **School Musical has been postponed until May 2021**, we will still have to draw for the 3 fabulous baskets that many of you had purchased tickets for! Therefore, **on Monday, May 4th at 9:00am**, a live draw will take place at the school. The draw will be recorded, and posted on our website, as well as the names of the winners. This will satisfy the requirements of our license.
4. **Tuition Assistance/Bursary Application deadline** has been extended to June 30th. Therefore, invoices will go out in June without the bursary totals allocated. Families should not worry if they see an invoice in the full amount. Once the bursary amounts are calculated, new invoices will be created and distributed. If a payment is made and applied to an account before the bursary is calculated, payments will be corrected to reflect early payments.
5. **VIP Hours**---Our VIP program has been cancelled, and all hours to date will be honoured. No cheques will be cashed this year, and all cheques will be shredded. If you have any questions please email Finance@stccs.ca
6. **PML**---Our PML program will continue for many families in Term 3 who have decided to do virtual lessons.

SOME GREAT BASKETBALL NEWS TO SHARE!

Developmental Girls

The Developmental Girls Basketball team had a fabulous season. Our focus, as a developmental team, was to have the girls gain confidence in their fundamental skills and to learn how to play this fast-paced game. Throughout the short season, the girls showed dedication and steady growth in their skills. It was a pleasure working with them and I know that our competitive team next year will be amazing! Go Chargers Go!
~ Coach Gel

Developmental Boys

The Developmental Boys had wonderful season! A great mix of grade 7 and grade 6 students showed a lot of development throughout the season improving with each game. The leadership shown by all the boys was wonderful to see and the skill they showed on the court was amazing. It was a wonderful season and a bright future for St. Charles basketball.
Brett Bourquin

Senior Girls Competitive

The Senior Girls Basketball team had a very impressive season. The girls played some very exciting games, parents and fans were regularly on the edge of their seats. The Chargers finished their season with 4 wins and 4 losses, almost all of those losses by only a basket. The girls improved each game and would have been ready to play their best basketball in the playoffs. Regardless of how the season ended, it was a great and successful season. Great work, St Charles Chargers!

Ms. Carter

Boys Competitive

The boys competitive basketball team had a very successful season this year, and it was unfortunate that they didn't get a chance to continue in the playoffs at St. Paul's. The boys finished the regular season with a 4-4 record and showed steady improvement throughout the season in both their individual skills and team play. The boys won their quarterfinal playoff game and were looking forward to playing in the semi-finals. Due to the season being cut short, the league announced that St. Charles would be considered the Tier 2 Boys Finalists! Great season boys!!

-Mr. Vechina"

God of love, we thank you for your Son, the true light of the world. May he reveal to us the way to you, and may we always look to his light to guide us in our lives here on earth and on our journey to you in heaven.

Wishing you all a very blessed Easter, and may you find peace in this long weekend and in the time spent with those you love.

God Bless,

Tammy

Tammy Narynski

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