

March 18, 2020

Dear HCA Community,

I would like to begin by sending a heartfelt thank you on behalf of the entire faculty and staff here at HCA. Your support and encouragement during this time has been overwhelming, and for that, we are truly grateful. Your children have been thoroughly engaged with their lessons over the past week, and that is a testament to all of the positive values you are instilling at home. We truly are blessed with a community that is dedicated to shared values. The children have shown resilience through this situation thus far. However, we must remember that no matter how old they are, whether it's first grade or eighth grade, they are still children and they have anxiety and worry during this time. Take time to listen to them; their feelings are real.

As you may have heard, all schools in New York, both public and private, must be closed through April 1. That would mean that the earliest we could reconvene live classes would be April 2. While that is still two weeks away, a lot can change. I must be honest and say that I can't foresee us opening the campus on that date. Many schools in our area are making the decision to remain closed until after spring break, and it is very likely we will also not return to campus until then. We will of course notify you as soon as we make that decision. We want to make sure that we make an informed decision based on facts, and at this time, it is too early to make that call.

We have dedicated Fridays to art, music, drama, and physical education for students in grades K-8. Therefore, there will be no academic classes or videos for those classes on Fridays. The videos for the lower school students will be based on what they are doing in the co-curriculars. Middle school students will have live classes in the above four subject areas. Below is the Friday schedule for middle school. Students in Nursery-Pre-K will have their regular videos on Friday.

We are also going to implement virtual social time for students in grades N-4 so that the children can see each other during this time. Mrs. Cody will be reaching out to each grade with times and instructions on joining our "virtual play dates" for the children. This is optional, but we thought it important to offer an opportunity for the children to check in and see each other from time to time.

I would like to reiterate our gratitude for your support, encouragement, and flexibility. The most important lesson we are teaching the children right now is that together, we can overcome any obstacle. I leave you with this prayer and ask that we pray together and ask God to help guide us through these turbulent times.

Dear God,

Right now, I am overwhelmed by the challenges I face. I think of the bad things and not the good. Help me to see things as they are, full of happy moments not to be taken for granted. That there is sunshine among the clouds. As I get ready to change my perspective, let me know gratitude.

And I will rise up against the odds.

Amen

We will rise up and we will, together as a community, overcome and return to our normal, daily routines in time.

Be well.

With Grace and Blessings,

Art

Middle School Friday Schedule

Friday	
PERIOD #1 8:00 - 8:30	5. Art 6. Gym 7. Music 8. Theater
PERIOD #2 8:35 - 9:05	5. Theater 6. Art 7. Gym 8. Music
20-MINUTE BREAK	
PERIOD #3 9:25 - 9:55	5. Music 6. Theater 7. Art 8. Gym
PERIOD #4 10:00 - 10:30	5. Gym 6. Music 7. Theater 8. Art