



**THE  
MOUNT  
VERNON  
SCHOOL**

March 16, 2020

March 16 UPDATE: COVID-19

Dear Mount Vernon Family,

It is incredible how life gets real and focused fast. Even since the last update, accelerated developments have transpired with more closures and more confirmed cases throughout the world and a virus that has changed how we live.

In spite of the unpredictable nature of the spread of COVID-19 and its disruption to your family and business, I think it is important to cultivate a sense of normalcy for your children as much as possible. As we officially launch The Mount Vernon School's Home Learning Plan tomorrow, think about reframing the isolation that may creep in over the next two weeks. In other words, design a daily routine with your children, incorporating school work with daily exercise, dinner together, and maybe even some fun. Be sure to have periodic check-ins with your children — assessing social, emotional, and spiritual health. Finally, how could we all incorporate a spirit of serving others in need while taking care of ourselves? Connect with your family to discover a way to serve, while social distancing is the new normal.

In partnership, the School will attempt to share some normalcy with you and your children in the form of Mustang announcements, celebration of birthdays, chapel messages, college pinning, and even spirit dress day on Fridays. Additionally, the respective division leaders have prepared a letter with a set of instructions, reminders, expectations, and check-in processes for the Home Learning Plan, beginning Tuesday, March 17. As a reminder, see the Home Learning Plan section below, as all assignments will be posted to Kaymbu (Preschool) and PowerSchool Learning (K-12) by 7:30 am. IT support and tutorials are also provided if you have trouble accessing or utilizing the platforms integral to the Plan.

[Preschool Home Learning Plan](#): Kelly Kelly, Head of PS

[Lower School Home Learning Plan](#): Shelley Searcy, Head of LS

[Middle School Home Learning Plan](#): Dr. Angél Kytte, Head of MS

[Upper School Home Learning Plan](#): Chip Houston, Head of US

I want to take a moment to thank our administrative team and faculty for their investment of preparation leading up to and during Spring Break. I am proud of their work and this could not be possible without a dedicated group behind the scenes.

We know this can be a stressful time for students, parents, and teachers, so we want to make this a smooth transition. In a fluid situation, we concede that this plan is not perfect and will require changes along the way. Please contact your respective division to provide feedback to improve the process and protocol. Where we see strong trendlines, we will make adjustments in real time.

On the other hand, if your family is confronting significant challenges beyond school life, please connect with someone trusted at Mount Vernon. We want to serve and support you if possible. There is no greater opportunity to demonstrate how united and connected our beloved community is during a time of disruption and uncertainty.

As a reminder, the Lower Campus and Upper Campus are closed to students and parents through March 27 in order to help prevent the spread of the virus. In addition, limited social mixing of students beyond the School will also aid in this endeavor.

Stay safe. Stay healthy.

Dr. Brett Jacobsen  
Head of School

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