



Our Lady of the Hamptons Regional Catholic School

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April 17, 2020

My dear Parents,

This is an extraordinary time in our lives, with no blueprint for success, no precedent to consult, and certainly no formula for the perfect path to a new beginning. Our greatest concern now must be for the health and safety of everyone.

While I have been trying to make contact with you through the morning prayer and almost daily notes, there are a few things we need to update for you that cannot be done any other way. My plan is to list these items here and then follow up with a simple “private” video to you early next week explaining some of the most important things.

There is no limit to the thoughts and prayers offered for each and every one of our community. Our children are the reason for our mission. The teachers have been working non-stop to find ways to continue the outstanding Catholic education that is OLH. That will not stop! Your children will have all the curriculum, enrichment and guidance that they deserve...just on a different platform.

CALENDAR...Sadly, we have already “lost” the events surrounding Easter, (Seder, Living Stations), Music Masters’ Day, the Intermediate and Primary Science Fairs, Ladies Luncheon, Mothers; Retreat, Teacher Recognition Day, Primary Speech Contest, as well as the planned National Junior Honor Society inductions, First Holy Communion, Fine Arts Week concerts, the Washington DC and Camp Quinipet trips. Graduation hangs in the balance as of now.

Some of these can easily be rescheduled for the fall.....others will simply be passed over for this school year, along with New York State testing and Regents exams.

(I will contact and hold Zoom sessions with the parents of First Communion children, as well as the Prep 8 parents for more detailed information.)

FINANCES....Some of you have given deposits for trips, the Ladies Luncheon, and hot lunch. These items will be addressed a little later. Obviously, we need to reclaim the deposit paid for planned trips. The Ladies Luncheon will be rescheduled and ticket information shared later. Hot lunch funds can be applied toward next year’s lunch program or applied toward tuition that may be owed. Please be patient and wait for more information on this as well.

*“A recognized Blue Ribbon School of Excellence”- The United States Department of Education
Chartered by the New York State Department of Education
Accredited by Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools*

TUITION The school year tuition is paid over a ten month period. While we fully understand that these are difficult times for everyone, we must also pay the contracted salaries and benefits of the teachers, as well as building maintenance and upkeep. The teachers are working nonstop to provide for the education of our children.

We would be grateful for your regular payments to continue as far as possible, and can accept that either by check or credit card (Call the convent (283-9110) and give your information). You may also come in person to the convent if you wish to pay in cash.

If your family needs a time extension of your payment plan, that can be arranged, but it must be in writing. Please understand that we do not want to lose any of our students and will do everything we possibly can to be sure that when we return every student is in his or her rightful place.

Looking ahead, we already had family re-registration for 2020-21 and boasted a full school. PLEASE know that we wish to keep things that way. We will try very hard to try to find sources of funding to supplement tuition and see how we can all reach out as family to keep what has been built as community at OLH can be kept intact! There must be a way!

If the only reason you feel you need to leave is financial....please don't do it!!!!!!

RETRIEVAL OF TEXTBOOKS and PERSONAL ITEMS is also a concern. We simply cannot permit anyone to come into the building at this time. There is a plan that will be implemented over the next few weeks that will allow for the efficient and safe claiming of all items. Details will be announced. (In the meantime, everything should be available online or in the books that are already at home.)

UNIFORMS FOR SEPTEMBER can be ordered online. Further information will come from Flynn and O'Hara. In the meantime, we suggest that you have your sons and daughters try on their current uniforms. They, most likely, are already "becoming shorter".

CONCERNS that need to be addressed...and will be...if we are made aware of them:

Families who may be in need of food or supplies

Children without proper means to do online school work

Families who may have members who are ill

I have made personal phone calls to each family over the first three weeks and have every intention of starting that chain again beginning in Monday. This is simply out of care and concern. Please be open and honest if there is a need you may have. If I can help you personally, I will try...otherwise, perhaps I can point you in the right direction.

***The only people I have not spoken with are those whose "mailboxes are full", have left no forwarding number, or didn't return the call when the message was left.

Please promise that YOU will take care of yourselves and will be open to changes that are being made every day that alter our lifestyle, our ambitions and our vision of the future. We are family...always will be.....Watching out for each other is essential.

Let's keep in touch! Please promise that you will also get your children "back to work" on Monday, April 18! First "bell" is at 8:30! Join me for prayer and then.....on to the work at hand!

Peace.....and lots of prayers.....SKathy