From: Montserrat C Kim

Subject: Bumpy start for KKim

Date: September 5, 2017 at 8:41 AM



Happy start of the school year.

I want to let you know that this school year is going to start off rather hard for my family. Last winter, my husband was diagnosed with Stage 4 rectal cancer. During this past spring and summer, he underwent 10 rounds of chemo, followed by radiation and then liver surgery. Today, Sept 5th he is having surgery on the primary tumor. He will be in the the hospital until at least Saturday. His long term prognosis is good - but we will have to deal with more chemo, more procedures/surgeries through this year.

K has been fully aware of what is going on with her father. She has been amazing. We openly talk about cancer at home but we do not let cancer control us and have worked hard to keep living our lives to the fullest.

With all this said, it is hard for her to know her father will not be there on the first day of school or even worst - her birthday on Friday. She has elected to celebrate her birthday on another day so that her dad will be home and able to help celebrate. But, I have to think this is hard for an almost 11 year old to deal with.

K wears her emotions on her sleeve. She is incredibly empathic and thoughtful. She has great emotional maturity. However, I worry that with new teachers, class and school year she might be more guarded this week and next.

I wanted you to know all of this in case something happens, she seems more quiet or despondent, etc. She is coping with a lot.

Thank you so much and I look forward to meeting you all this school year. best.

Montserrat Kim

Sent from my iPad