



March 16, 2020

Dear St. Catherine of Siena Parents,

This is an update on our Home Learning Plan in response to the information we received today from the Office of Catholic Schools and the Louisiana Department of Education. As of now, we have been informed that our first day back at school will be Tuesday, April 14, 2020.

Parent Expectations:

1. Please email me at kkilroy@scsigators.org if you do NOT have a laptop/computer/ipad at home for your child to use. The device will need access to the internet. We have some Chromebooks on campus that I could lend out. This is a limited resource, so it will be first come first serve. I ask that you only check a device out if you absolutely do not have access to a device at home.
2. It's imperative that as a parent you have access to your PlusPortal for grades Kindergarten through 4th Grade and Google Classrooms for 5th-7th Grade. This will be the main line of communication that we will use for our remote learning plan. If you have any trouble logging in to PlusPortals, please reach out to Mr. Fields at zfields@scsigators.org. Middle School Parents can email me at kkilroy@scsigators.org if you suddenly have trouble accessing your Google classroom accounts.
 - PlusPortal Support: If you need further assistance on how to use our PlusPortal and where you can access your child's classroom materials, please visit this link (for a tutorial on how to use the PlusPortals program). Click on the following link: <https://scsigators.org/help>
3. Quarter III Grading: The highest test grade will be used to replace any missed assessments during this quarter. This is to protect the validity of the third quarter & present a more accurate reporting given the abrupt end to our 3rd Quarter. Note: Your child will not be asked to complete any make-up assignments or assessments from the third quarter.

Explanation of Academic Expectations:

Kindergarten-4th Grade

- Teachers will post a weekly newsletter with skills and standards being covered that week and will post in PlusPortals.
- A skill or activity will be assigned to be completed each day.
- All completed work should be kept in the children's folders, notebooks, or workbooks and safely stored until we return to school.
- Assessments: Alternative forms of assessment along with traditional forms will be used to show mastery and participation. Students will be given the timeline of completion directly from their teacher.
- Teachers will direct which weekly assignments that should be submitted through portals at the beginning of each week. For more information regarding submitting assignments through portals click on this link: <https://docs.rediker.com/media/interactive-guides/plusportals/2015/homework/index.html>



- Per the archdiocesan directive regarding Safe Environment, because we are unable to ensure that a parent is present during live streaming for instruction, applications such as google meet, google hang-out, and zoom meetings will not be used.

5th-7th Grade

- Teachers will post a weekly newsletter with skills and standards being covered that week.
- All assignments will be posted weekly in Google Classrooms. Students should check Google Classrooms every day for updates on assigned work/discussion boards/recorded instructional videos
- Rules for School Discussion Boards - Please click on the following link to review the rules of engagement when using Google Classrooms and review with your student:
<http://blogs.onlineeducation.touro.edu/15-rules-netiquette-online-discussion-boards/>
- Per the archdiocesan directive regarding Safe Environment, because we are unable to ensure that a parent is present during live streaming for instruction, applications such as google meet, google hang-out, and zoom meetings will not be used.
- All completed work should be kept in the children's folders, notebooks, or workbooks and safely stored until we return to school.
- Assessments: Students will be given a 12 hour time frame to complete (8 AM-8PM). Alternative forms of assessment along with traditional forms will be used to show mastery and participation.
- Teachers will direct which weekly assignments that should be submitted through google classrooms at the beginning of each week.

We have been given the directive from our Superintendent that any person who wishes to enter the school building will have their temperature checked and turned away if there is a reading of 99.9.

All teachers and administrative staff will be available via email and ready to answer any questions and offer support during normal school hours 8:30-3:30. All communication should be through plus portals, google classrooms, and/or school emails. If you need to find a teacher's email address, please visit our website under the "About" tab and go to "Our Faculty & Staff".

I will continue to update you as we evolve with our Home Learning Plan.

Sincerely,

Kimberlie Kilroy
Principal