



Dear Parents and Guardians:

When we wrote to you on Friday, March 13th, none of us could have anticipated that schools would be closed "indefinitely". Many think that means until April 13th, which is the end of the Spring Break. Others are hoping it's only a week or two, however we have no way of knowing. What we do know is that as long as all the public schools are closed, Hope Hall has to remain closed as well.

We had said in our letter that was sent home on Friday that we would not be sending home required work and listed reasons for that. Although those reasons remain the same, without knowing for how long the school closings will last, we would like to offer the following suggestions.

1. Spectrum is offering free internet services for 60 days to anyone who has a child(ren) in school but does not have access to the internet. This internet service can be put on your smart phones. **PLEASE** remember to cancel this service after the 60 days or you will end up being charged for it. For Spectrum, the phone number to call is: 1-844-488-8395.
2. Make sure that you check our Website (www.hopehall.org), Facebook page, the Praxi Parent Portal, (https://app.praxischool.com/parent_login.php?s=1612), and other Hope Hall social media sites for ongoing updates and important information.
3. Linda's Cupboard will be open regular hours this week and next week.
4. For any Hope Hall family that is not registered for Linda's Cupboard, we will open the Cupboard on Saturday, March 21st from 8:00am until 12:00pm. This is **ONLY** for the **immediate family of our Hope Hall students**. We unfortunately just simply do not have enough to be able to offer to extended family (Aunts, Uncles, cousins, etc.) If you come on Saturday, please be sure to bring 2 reusable bags to put your items in. We do not have extra bags to hand out. **Please use the bus door ONLY for an entrance.**
5. Here are some things to do with your children. *Note no student will receive a negative consequence or lose credit for not doing any of these things, but if the **DO** any of this work they will earn extra credit.
 - A. If your student receives Consultant teacher services, please find out the name of the consultant teacher. Work will be in the cafeteria and copies will be made to take home. You will be able to pick this work up this week on Wednesday (March 18th) between 8am and

4pm (**please be sure to use the bus door door entrance**), Friday (March 20th) between 2pm and 5pm, and Saturday (March 21st) from 8am until 12pm.

B. Be sure that your child(ren) get outside to play. The fresh air will help. If you are home with them, perhaps take them to a park or someplace where they (and you) can be in nature. This is not only good for your body but it is also a great stress reliever.

C. We have been focusing on community, hospitality, empathy, sacrifice, tolerance, and acceptance this year. Ask your child(ren) to keep a journal (it can be on loose leaf paper, a spiral notebook, or even digitally in their electronic device) about how they are practicing these things while schools are closed. You can initial these "writings", and praise them for it.

D. We will have plenty of free books available in the cafeteria. You are welcome to come to the school, during the times and days listed above in #4 or letter B. Or take your child(ren) to the Library if there is one open near you. Have them read in 20 minute blocks, and keep track of the time that they read. It doesn't matter what they read, the fact is, that they are practicing reading, even if it is an "easy" book.

E. We caution you about simply pulling material off websites for your child(ren). Much of the material that is available is for general education, and may not be appropriate for your child(ren). This could cause a great deal of frustration for both you and your child(ren).

In closing, stay calm, remember to wash your hands frequently, and insist that you child(ren) do as well, and keep social distance (4 to 6 feet) between you and non-family members. For families in need of additional support during this time, please visit www.monroecounty.gov for a comprehensive list of temporary assistance available, including drop-in-centers for food/meals.

All of our Administration, Faculty, and Staff are thinking of you and your family. Holding you in our hearts and prayers.

Sister Diana, Mrs. Droegmoeller, and Ms. McLean