



March 12, 2020

Dear Parents,

We are in uncharted territory as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. As a parent myself, I understand the stress and anxiety that we all feel for the well-being of our children and with the situation at hand. As the guidance from the CDC, the federal government and the State of New Jersey has changed, so must our response. Therefore, it is out of an abundance of caution and in collaboration with the Diocese of Paterson Catholic Schools Office, the St. Patrick School Education Council, and St. Patrick Parish, that I inform you that St. Patrick School is implementing its Continuity of Operations Instructional Plan and will have a school dismissal of all students starting Monday, March 16 until further notice.

**Even though it is a dismissal until further notice, this decision will be evaluated on a weekly basis.**

Please know that we understand this is an inconvenience to our families, however the New Jersey Department of Education believes it is wise to make this prudent decision for the safety and welfare of all. We are aligning the best practices available to us for this situation.

The closing procedures are as follows:

**St. Patrick School will run a normal schedule from 7:50AM - 2:40PM on Friday, March 13, 2020, including After Care until 6PM.**

All students are required to bring home all materials and personal belongings on Friday when they leave school.

By now, all parents should have received login and password information for E-learning from your child's homeroom teacher. If you did not receive this information or have any questions, please contact the homeroom teacher.

**Starting on Monday, March 16, 2020, St. Patrick School will be closed for students until further notice. (This will be evaluated on a weekly basis.) E-learning for all students in all grades will commence on Monday, March 16, 2020. All extra-curricular activities and after school enrichment activities are postponed until further notice.** Currently, only faculty and staff will have access to the buildings moving forward to facilitate E-learning during school hours.

Please refer to Dr. Ross' letter dated March 11, 2020 for details on E-learning. If you have trouble finding the letter, it can be found on the Parent Portal in the Schools and Links section, Parent Information Folder. It can also be found on the school website at <https://st-pats-schhol.org/nurse>.



We will communicate updates and information as necessary via email alerts such as this and through the Parent Portal.

I am ever mindful of the hardships this school dismissal will cause our families. Please be assured that the health and wellness of our school community is our top priority. Dismissing school is not something that any of us wants, but it is what we are now faced with in response to the public health situation.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and flexibility as we work through this extraordinary set of events. May God bless you and your family.

Blessings,

Christine Ross, Ed. D  
Principal