



## **Community Update**

April 24, 2020

Dear Prep Community,

We have now entered the final weeks of the school year. We have just two weeks of regular classes remaining, then finals week. Though the second semester has unfolded in ways we could not have imagined, the end of the school year has approached as quickly as ever. We are very proud of our students for their perseverance, our faculty and staff for their leadership, and our families for your commitment to your students and to the school. While many of the changes our students and our school have had to endure this spring have been challenging and sometimes painful, we also believe the spring semester will be remembered for the character of our community in a very difficult time.

### **Planning Forward**

We will conclude classes and the spring semester the week of May 11-14. Our faculty are working to develop a Finals Week Assessment Calendar that we will share with you in the next week. The calendar will identify the assessments our students will be asked to complete during finals week. Sending it to you in advance of finals will allow you to help your students plan and hopefully reduce some of the anxiety that often marks the last week of the academic year. We are committed to our students' success.

We have received many questions about graduation, scheduled for Saturday, May 23. We plan to keep graduation on that date. Whether we celebrate graduation on campus or virtually on May 23, we plan to fully honor and recognize our students that day. If we must celebrate virtually in May, we will host a Sending and Blessing Celebration Ceremony for the Class of 2020 the first Sunday in August. We will provide final graduation details and plans by no later than May 8.

### **eLearning Survey**

Since we began teaching our students online, we have worked to engage them in sustained and meaningful ways while also supporting their social and emotional well-being. Though it has often proven challenging for students and faculty alike, we have learned a great deal about eLearning in just six weeks. But we know we need to learn more. All families will receive an eLearning survey at the conclusion of the academic year. We will gather data about the experiences that worked best and those that worked less well. Our aim is to build on what we have learned to improve the quality of eLearning at Prep – not simply because we may need to teach online again in the future but also because what we learn may allow us to improve our traditional classroom experience. We will provide more details about the survey when we get closer to its launch.

### **Re-enrollment Forms for Returning Students**

We know we have sent many reminders about re-enrollment forms. Thank you to those who have submitted completed forms! They are important because they help us plan for the next academic year. If you have not yet completed the forms and have questions about them or about financial aid, please do not hesitate contact us.

### **Grand Tour of Nations**

Tomorrow we will celebrate Grant Tour of Nations! Grand Tour is our school's largest fund-raising event of the year, and even virtually promises to be great fun. The auction will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday and run all day. The planning committee has gathered a great selection of interesting and fun auction items. The virtual program begins at 6 p.m. It promises to be a wonderful community celebration in support of our students!

### **Contact Us**

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns about your student or what's happening at school. We will continue to provide regular updates through the end of the spring term and during the summer.

Thank you for all you do for Saint John's Prep!

With gratitude,

Jon McGee  
Head of School

Christine Glomski  
Principal