



March 27, 2020

Dear Stanley Community,

As we head into our spring break, we want to take the opportunity to again thank you for your support, good will, and patience through this unprecedented time. Our current living reality puts pressures on each of us, some shared by all and some unique to each family. The strength of the Stanley community has always been defined by our capacity for care, and that has never been more in evidence.

Spring Break

We hope the next week provides you and your family some opportunity for restoration, some change of pace, as challenging as that may be right now. One of the things we're learning from our experience and that of other communities who have been in a "lockdown" mode longer than we, is that there can be a tendency to overwork. The remote nature of our work means that it's ever present, always available, and harder to segment into a sustainable work/rest balance. Routines are harder to establish. As much as we typically rail against the predictability of the "daily grind" in our normal work, or school, lives, a sense of routine and predictability is actually comforting and supportive, especially for our children of any age. We can support our students in finding routine by modeling that ourselves in our daily activities – establishing time for work and time for family, rest and play.

Phase 2 of Home Learning

Our Phase 2 programming that starts April 7, as described by our respective division leaders in Wednesday's letters, will provide additional structure to our students' weeks through Google Classroom and various Zoom meeting opportunities. We encourage parents to use these opportunities as a foundation of building the school day and week for our children, in the interest of sustainability. We appreciate that the blend of technology in our home learning program may present some challenges, especially for our younger students, or for parents who are juggling remote working themselves. We are committed to learning alongside you and we will be working as a team to support with this aspect of our program in whatever ways families may need. We hold out hope that we will be able to return to classes on April 20, though whether or not that is possible, creating healthy work routines will serve us, and our children well.

Community Support

Our focus to date has been largely on the continuation of our learning program, and our school community is also committed to supporting those in need of any help beyond our educational program. Through these community letters and through our [COVID-19 web page](#), we will regularly update you with resources available to support in a variety of areas. As always, please reach out to your homeroom teachers, any administrator, or myself for any need you may have or assistance we can provide your family.

All of us at Stanley wish you and your family health and peace next week, and we look forward to reconnecting with you soon.

Warmly,
Tim