



1145 Delsea Drive  
Westville, NJ 08093  
Tel: 856.848.4700  
www.adsschool.org

# ARCHBISHOP DAMIANO SCHOOL

*Making a difference in the lives of our students*

December 31, 2021

Dear ADS Parents & Guardians,

This is the letter I was hoping I would not have to write. Due to the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we will need to pivot to a **full remote learning model** starting on **January 5<sup>th</sup>** with a projected return to in-person learning on **January 12<sup>th</sup>**. We have been made aware that many members of our school community have tested positive for COVID-19 and more are experiencing symptoms each day. We are seeing an increase in breakthrough cases. As a result, we are unable to meet the educational and medical needs of our students. I will closely monitor the situation and notify you promptly if it is necessary to extend remote learning; however, I hope for a safe and healthy return on Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>.

At ADS the 14-day quarantine remains in effect. While the CDC has reduced the number of days to quarantine to five, the Department of Health supports an extended quarantine for those that are medically fragile. Because the health of our students is imperative, and ADS has a high percentage of medically compromised students, we will continue to exercise the maximum quarantine timeframe for students and staff.

**The details below explain the transition to remote learning.**

- All remote services will begin on **Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>**.
- Teachers & therapists will use **Tuesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>** to connect with parents/guardians to prepare for remote learning.
- Teachers will offer 4 hours of instruction daily.
- Students with a 1:1 aide will have this added support provided remotely.
- Therapists will deliver services as per their current schedules.
- Gym, Horticulture and 4-H classes will be held virtually at regularly scheduled times.
- Staff will be able to use both Microsoft TEAMS and ZOOM as platforms for remote learning. More info to follow from your child's teacher on the learning platform. Making this as easy as possible is our goal!
- Those in need of technology...
  - Parents/guardians, you can pick up your child's school iPad or communication device (if necessary) between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 4th. Please contact the school secretary at (856) 848-4700 Ext. 1208 to arrange a pick-up time. We will ensure that it is ready when you arrive.
  - Please contact the secretary for alternate arrangements if you do not have transportation to the school and need to obtain a device.

- School lunches will be available for pick up for all students. If you're interested in receiving a school lunch for your child while on remote learning, please contact the Head of Food Service, Linda Powell. Email: [lpowell@sjogcs.org](mailto:lpowell@sjogcs.org) Phone: (856) 848-4700 Ext. 1120. Please provide your child's name and your contact information and Linda will arrange a pick-up time with you at the cafeteria door.

My hope is that after this week we will see the infection rates start to decline, and the individuals that are experiencing illness will be healthy and ready to spring back into action. The new variant is highly contagious and spreads quickly. Taking measures to ensure the safety of our school community is paramount. If we continue to work as a team with the same strong communication we have shown to date, we can look to greater and safer outcomes for a healthy return.

I hope I have covered all of my bases with this information. I am available via email or phone for any questions, comments or concerns. So many of you made the best of remote learning last time around (some of you are still working remotely and are so dedicated!) I have faith that we will be just as successful this time. For our "first-time" parents transitioning to remote, the ADS staff is here to support you! Thank you for your flexibility and support.

Wishing you continued good health,

*Michele*

Michele McCloskey, M.A.  
Executive Director/Principal  
[mmcclosky@sjogcs.org](mailto:mmcclosky@sjogcs.org)  
856-848-4700 Ext. 1150