

February 18, 2021

Dear Grace Community,

I hope this email finds you well and warm after a day of more freezing rain and snow. February is definitely delivering some winter to us this year! I find myself dreaming of warmer days on the playground with our Gryphons. The good news is that this spring weather and outdoor play is coming sooner than later.

As we approach the one-year mark of living through Covid, I am dwelling in gratitude for all that we have accomplished as a community. I am especially proud of our students and all the ways they have managed this very difficult challenge. As I interact with them in school and online, I am reminded of their immense optimism and ability to persevere. As we enter this next stage of re-entering some of the life we enjoyed before the pandemic, I am also preparing for all of the ways that we will need to heal and repair after months of loss and isolation. I hope you know that the Grace community stands ready to be a soft landing of connection and support for you and your children well into the future.

Today, I also have some updates to our reopening plan to share with you.

- First, we have had a successful return to the building since we reopened in January. A huge thank you to our faculty and leadership for creating strong protocols and a physical setup that is safe and well managed. And thank you to our parents for following all of our directives as well.
- While we continue to explore a way to bring a testing regimen to campus, **we are asking all families who have students attending in person learning to get tested once again and submit results to [nmchugh@geds.org](mailto:nmchugh@geds.org) by 3/1/21**. Testing should be done **no sooner than 2/20/21**.
- Beginning the week of March 1, students in Grades 1-5 will attend in person on Wednesday as well as their other two assigned days. The new One Grace on-campus schedule will be as follows:
  - Monday: Preschool, Prek, Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2
  - Tuesday: Preschool, Prek, Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2
  - **NEW / Wednesday: Grades 1-5 (all other groups in remote learning)**
  - Thursday: Preschool, Prek, Kindergarten, Grades 3, 4, and 5
  - Friday: Preschool, Prek, Kindergarten, Grades 3, 4, and 5
- Families who have been learning from home may join on-campus learning at the beginning of any new week, and must submit a negative COVID test for their student. The results from that test should be dated from the week before the student comes back on campus.
- Spring Break is the week of March 29-April 2. As announced, we will be in all remote learning the week following Spring Break (April 6-9). Families sending students to in

person learning should plan to submit test results by Friday, April 9. In-person learning will resume on April 12.

- Finally, Oneness Family High School will return to in-person learning next Thursday and Friday (Feb. 25, 26) at Grace. These students will continue to have no crossover with our students. They are being tested before returning and will follow all of our protocols.

I hope to see you at Founders' Day Chapel next week on Wednesday, February 24 at 12:30 pm. Please check the Gryphon News for the Zoom link. Until then, be well. And please reach out with any questions.

-Jen Danish