



ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

ENGAGING HEART, MIND, AND SPIRIT

Dear Preschool Families,

As you know, over the past several weeks, the Board of Trustees' Executive Committee, our school's Medical Advisory Taskforce and the senior administration have been exploring the various options for reopening next month. Your perspective was enormously valuable in the recent all community survey and at several of our family coffees in the late spring.

At this time, the school plans to operate a normal daily schedule, commencing on Monday, August 17th. [St. James' at Home](#), our remote program will be an option for any family that prefers not to return to campus at this time. Please also note the change to the school calendar.

Strict protocols, including fever checks for every adult and child entering the campus, social distancing, face masks, and deep cleaning throughout the day on an ongoing basis will be key components of our efforts to ensure that the campus is safe for daily use. We understand that wearing masks is a challenge for many small children and experts are advising the school on the best strategies to make children comfortable with this important addition to hygiene and safety during this pandemic.

As we have previously shared, the school will only provide a remote program from after Thanksgiving through the beginning of December holiday break. Given the earlier start date on August 17th, we will return from holiday break on Monday, January 11th. On a very limited basis, some childcare options for children of essential workers will be available during the remote learning school days.

Many details are still being finalized for reopening school. We appreciate how stressful this summer -- and the last several months - have been for everyone and please know that designing a safe and student-centered, socio-emotionally nurturing and academically rigorous program for the fall is our priority. We will have a special family coffee on Thursday, July 9th at 8:00am and again at 5:00pm to discuss the model for the upcoming fall. Zoom links will be sent on Wednesday.

As always, thank you for your patience and partnership -- we are going to get through this challenging time.

All my best,

Peter Reinke
Head of School
St. James' Episcopal School