

# *Notre Dame Catholic Academy of Ridgewood*

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January 7, 2022

Dear Parents,

I would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding while we transitioned to remote learning this week. While it was not ideal and what we had planned I feel that it was what was best for all of us. This week allowed us to not only educate our children, but wait out the excessive positive cases and exposures and not put anyone at risk.

I would like to inform you, anyone that ordered lunch this past week, your lunch monies will be carried over to the first week in February.

As we return to in person learning we still have children quarantining so for those reasons we will be offering remote learning for anyone under quarantine orders or showing symptoms and waiting for test results or have been notified that they are close contacts. We will be reviewing these cases on a case by case basis, I ask that you email any considerations to me at [office@notredamecatholicacademy.net](mailto:office@notredamecatholicacademy.net). We are in unprecedented times again and need to be flexible and ready to work through it. NDCA is ready to do so. Remote learning will not look the same in each grade, the teachers will inform you of the process they will follow. Teachers in grades 4-8 will no longer be switching classrooms they will be streaming into each classroom and teaching live in their homeroom class. We have become very successful in zoom groups and continue to work with our Educate coach for new and improve strategies. There will also be times when Asynchronous work will be assigned. Remote children will have links for all classes included homeroom. They must attend all classes for attendance to be completed.

K-2 will look a bit different and we will need to work out what that will be this week. I continue to ask for your patience and understanding as we figure things out and do what is best for all children. Of course it is best for the children to learn in school so

if your child is not showing any symptoms, is not sick, is not awaiting results or someone in your family is not awaiting results, please send them in. However, if your child has been exposed and/or is awaiting a test result or is just sick. PLEASE KEEP THEM HOME. If you are unsure what to do, please call the school or email me at the office email. Bottom line is, when in doubt keep them home and take them to a dr.

I would also like the parents in K and 8 to know that we have moved graduation photos to February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

There has also been some confusion with the quarantining rules, please keep in mind that all Diocesan schools are currently following the 10 day quarantine rules for Faculty, Staff and Students. We will also be following the 10+10 rule for all close contacts in the house hold. For example, if student x parent tests positive on Jan 1<sup>st</sup> the parent's quarantine in our guidelines is until Jan. 10 meaning the student then begins their quarantine on the 11<sup>th</sup> for 10 days allowing them to return on the 21<sup>st</sup> with a medical note. This is what we have been following since last year and have seen it successful in slowing the spread in the classroom.

Also note that any child that tests positive needs medical clearance to return. No child will be allowed back into the classroom without a note from the dr. We will also be monitoring mask wearing, any child that is refusing to wear their mask properly will be moved out of the classroom and a parent will be contacted to pick up their child and move them to remote learning.

Everyone is asked to be mindful of the daily health check questions and if the answer is Yes to any question please stay home.

You can help keep your school community safe and healthy by following these important "Core Four" actions to prevent COVID-19 transmission:

- Stay home if sick: Monitor your health and stay home if you are sick except for getting essential medical care (including COVID-19 testing) and other essential needs.
- Physical distancing: Stay at least 6 feet away from people who are not members of your household.
- Wear a face covering: Protect those around you. Wearing a face covering helps reduce the spread of COVID-19, especially if you are sick and don't have symptoms. For more information about face coverings, visit [nyc.gov/health/coronavirus](https://nyc.gov/health/coronavirus) and look for "FAQ About Face Coverings."

· Practice healthy hand hygiene: Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available; clean frequently touched surfaces regularly; avoid touching your face with unwashed hands; and cover your cough or sneeze with your arm, not your hands.

Notre Dame Catholic Academy will continue to closely follow all direction of public health experts and proactively update you on any measures we are taking. Nothing is more important than the health and safety of our school community.

Sincerely,

Mrs. DiLorenzo & Mr. Carey