



May 30, 2020

Dear SJA Parents and Guardians,

We are 10 weeks into our *Continuous Learning Plan* and as we work to make your child's experience the best it can be, we keep coming back to one reality: the overwhelming support of parents and guardians makes it all possible. Thank you for every encouraging email and phone call you have sent our way.

Yesterday you received a copy of the *School Reopening Policy*. While it is a worst-case scenario plan, you can see we are busy getting SJA ready for September 2020. The building is undergoing significant renovations to ensure proper social distancing and to exceed all other requirements. **We will be open and ready for school September 9.**

The question on everyone's mind is: will we be back to the building in June? Given the necessary time frame to get staff trained and open the building again, we made the call that **we will not return to the school building in June, regardless of what the government says June 9th**. This is a tough call to make, since we all want to be together again, but it also allows everyone to plan for the near future, something none of us have been able to do in a while.

Here is an update on a few things going on at St. Jude's:

- Zoom made a major upgrade and **you MUST update to Zoom 5.0 before classes starts on Monday.**
- Yesterday we finished our **Annual Spelling Bee**. It was a huge success, including the inter-school event. A big shout out to Ms. Chang who pulled off an incredible virtual event.
- This week we held our first ever **Virtual 5K** race and our first **Astronomy Club competition**. Our **SJA Shakespeare Radio Drama** is coming soon, with the first ever **SJA Dragonz Den** competition hot on its heels.
- **Graduation is almost here!** This week the Grade 12 students received the first of many surprises when they got a special package from SJA. We can hardly wait for them to see what we have in store over the next few weeks. St. Jude's Graduates will be neither forgotten nor disappointed.

I started with this and end with the same: thank you for your overwhelming support. We love teaching your children,

Mr. Neal
Head of Student Life
Interim VP – Parent Relations