

Saint Cecilia School
525 Rhawn Street
Philadelphia, PA 19111

May 15, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

After two months of flexible Learning, I want to reach out to you to share some end of the school year closing information. First, I want to thank you for all of the support that you have provided during this crisis. It is only with your cooperation that the children of our school have been able to progress and will be ready to enter a new grade next fall.

We have been asked about final grades for this year and what impact will flexible learning have on the final grades. Throughout the past two months our teachers have implemented appropriate practices for grading in a flexible learning environment. Therefore, students will receive a grade for the third trimester and a final grade. The Office of Catholic Education formed a task force to come up with a plan for calculating the grade for the third trimester. What follows below is the proposed plan and we will follow that plan at Saint Cecilia School.

Since flexible learning is more of a challenge for many students for a variety of reasons, we did not want this marking period to have a harmful impact on our students. We realize that most of our students have worked hard during this period so we tried to build a fair system. We asked our teachers to use the grades of the first and second trimester as a “foundation grade” for the basis of the third trimester grade. They will then compare the third trimester grade to the foundation grade and make sure it is reflective of the work the student has completed during this period. The archdiocese has also weighted the third trimester a little differently to reflect the shorter time in the third trimester and to accentuate the work already completed in the first two thirds of the year. Therefore, the first and second trimester will be weighed as 36% of the final grade and the third trimester will be 28% of the final grade.

We plan on ending direct instruction on June 1, 2020. From June 2 to June 4 students will finish their classwork and projects. We will collect chromebooks that have been lent to the students during the past few months on Monday, June 8. Families are asked to return the chromebooks to the main office between the hours of 10 AM and 12 noon.

We will send a separate communication that will discuss any activities related to the closing exercises of Pre-K and Kindergarten and the Graduation events of our Eight Grade class.

Again, thank you for your support during this crisis. Through your efforts and the efforts of our teachers we were able to accomplish a great deal of learning.

Sincerely,

Sister Jane Mary Carr, IHM

Principal