



Matthews Hall

Established 1918

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

Dear Parents:

It seems strange to say, but “welcome back” after what was, I am sure, an anxious and uncertain March Break for all families. Over the last two weeks, we have been carefully monitoring the evolving COVID-19 updates at the local, national, and global levels. The impacts are concerning to everyone and we hope you and your family members have been safe and well throughout this ordeal.

As we begin the spring term, we are committed to ensuring that our program of learning continues remotely for the time-being. Yesterday, you will have been contacted by your children’s teachers to initiate the first phase of our Matthews Hall “Learning at Home” program. Our teachers and administration have been working during the break to ensure we can engage in meaningful ways with our students, recognizing the reality that learning without the structure and physical support of friends and teachers requires a different approach.

Yesterday, the Government of Ontario confirmed that schools would remain closed until May 4th to enforce ongoing social distancing restrictions in the interest of public health. While this is certainly a changeable situation, Matthews Hall and other independent schools in our province will *very likely* be complying with this extension in the hope that the need for closure will end in the near future. You will receive confirmation of our plan before April 14th.

In the meantime, our MH Learning at Home program will continue with increasing structure as we move forward throughout the next phase of our closure. You will be receiving a program overview at the end of the week that will outline more fully the philosophy and pedagogy we will be implementing.

As always, thank you for your support and solidarity during this challenging and unforeseen interruption to our regular operations.

We are thankful for your ongoing good health and engagement as we move through the coming term.

Sincerely,

Ric Anderson
Head of School