



26 March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Tomorrow is the last day of quarter three and the end of our first full week of online learning. Throughout the week, students and their teachers have been working together, and we are also very aware that many of you have been learning with your children. I thank you for all the support you have shown your children. We know it has not always been easy.

We are in unprecedented times and all hope that we will get back to normal soon. Exactly what this normal will look like, no one is very sure. That said we know this cannot last forever. As a school we are ready to reopen and get back into the classroom as soon as we are allowed and it is safe to do so.

As we move into our quarter three break, I hope you manage to find some time to enjoy your children and that they have a deserved rest. For many of the students, this is a very confusing time and they need our help to understand what is happening around them. They are not in school but it is not a holiday, they are at home but for many they are not meeting up with their friends as they would normally. Whilst much of the world is now in formal lockdown; here in Tanzania we are not under curfew or restrictions, but we have been asked to limit all non-essential travel and interactions. As we cast our eyes to elsewhere on the continent, we see how governments are first asking, and then imposing, strict restriction on movement. We might hope otherwise, but we should prepare for a greater control to be placed on us.

Stay safe. The advice remains to wash your hands, limit travel and practice social distancing. We all need to do everything we can to keep ourselves and our families healthy.

Kind regards,
Anna Marsden

26 March 2020

Dear Students,

Today I am writing to you all directly to send you strength and support and also to say please do not worry. The current situation is out of your hands and, whilst this may be frustrating, you must rely on the adults and institutions around you to manage what is happening. You can only do what you can do.

Some of you are in situations where you can access your online classes easily, others are not. Your teachers understand this and they are flexible. Some of you will be able to return should the school open again after the break, and others will not. Again, don't worry, we are preparing for this. Some of you are at home, some are at school, some are with host families and some are in quarantine. Wherever you are, take some time to breathe. Whilst this is our situation right now, it will not last forever. We will be learning together and together we will find a way forward.

For our D2 and M5 students, you will graduate this year. It might not look and feel like it has in previous years but don't let the events of these final weeks overshadow and define your school experience. What you have learnt, in and out of the classroom, will be with you long after this has passed. Some of you have left the country and may not return to school but others of you will. Whatever your situation, you will all be alumni of our school.

Stay connected with each other, stay connected with us. Do what you can but also spend some time focusing on yourself. You will be (and probably already are) bombarded with news, this can be both alarming and overwhelming. Limit what you read and limit what you share. Be kind to each other and make sure that each day you have some fun.

Warm regards and stay healthy,
Anna Marsden