



WEEKLY UPDATE

MONSIGNOR SLADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

120 Dorsey Road · Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061 · 410-766-7130

Volume 4, Issue 10

October 2, 2020



Be a Light for All to See
Matthew 5:16

Important News & Notes:

The *Catholic Review* Highlights Our Teacher of the Year: Please take a moment to peruse the online October edition of the *Catholic Review* which has a great story featuring Mrs. Karin Abbott on pages A36-A37. Also of note, our own Savannah Beall is also featured on the cover of the Open House section of the edition found on page A25. http://catholicreview.md.newsmemory.com/ee/_nnum/_default_bb_include_inframe.php?pSetup=catholicreview_bb&isFrame=1&bbtype=type_html5&docMode=BackCompat

Calendar Change: The Archdiocese of Baltimore has kindly granted all faculty and staff a day of rest on October 7th; therefore, **school will be closed on Wednesday, October 7th**, for regular classes (both in-person and remote), and extended care will be closed that day as well. Classes will resume on Thursday, October 8th.

Family Income Survey: Each year, the Maryland State Department of Education tasks the Archdiocese of Baltimore schools with collecting family income data. Historically, families have received a paper form that is filled out and returned to school. This year, the information will be collected through a secure Google form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfgzg7It0zs4nQXaAiWsZf9fMw0wOlm8d4ISVvKHZrW0CQ2_yQ/viewform. The information gathered through this survey is completely confidential and will assist Monsignor Slade Catholic School in receiving state textbook funding and grants. Families are asked to **complete one survey per student** enrolled in Pre-K-8th grades at Monsignor Slade. The survey takes approximately 2-4 minutes to complete, and it must be submitted by October 15, 2020. We appreciate your prompt attention to this very important matter.

Fall Parent Conference Procedures—Yesterday, an email was sent to all families with information about our procedures for fall parent conferences. Conferences are mandatory for the parents of students in Pre-K4 through 2nd grade and all new families in grades 3-8. However, parents of returning students in grades 3-8 who would like to request a conference with their child's teacher should follow the procedures detailed in the email. Please note: There was an error on one of the dates in the conference procedures timeline, so we have attached the corrected timeline to this update for your convenience.

Mode-of-Learning Commitment: Sometime during the first week of November, we will be sending out a new intent form to parents so that you can indicate whether your child will be an in-person or remote student during the second trimester, which begins November 30, 2020. All families will need to complete the intent form, whether or not your mode of learning is changing, so that we may adequately prepare classrooms to accommodate social distancing.

Temporary Remote Learning Reminder: All books and materials will be sent home for students who are designated as temporary remote learners and are required to be out several days to two weeks due to the need to quarantine until a COVID test result or alternate diagnosis is received. If a student is going to be absent for just a day or two,



Important News & Notes (continued):

we ask that students and parents not request that all materials be sent home. Students, if well enough, are still welcomed to join classes remotely. Should parents desire that their student bring home all materials nightly, students are welcomed to do that; however, Chromebooks will not be sent home on a nightly basis. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Face Mask Usage: As we enter the 5th week of the 20/21 school year, now is a good time to remind you about the importance of properly using face coverings.

- Wear cloth masks with two or more layers of material to stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Do not use masks with valves. Per the CDC these do not adequately prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Masks must be worn over the nose and mouth and secured under the chin.
- Masks are to be worn by people two years and older.
- Except for the school nurses or staff working with individuals with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, do not wear masks intended for healthcare workers, for example, N95 respirators
- Face shields can be worn in addition to a face mask. However a face shield alone is not adequate.
- Gaiters and bandannas are not acceptable.
- Mask breaks will happen outside when students are beyond six feet of each other. That includes eating outside. If students are not more than six feet apart in classrooms when snacks and lunch are eaten, an A/B rotation will be instituted so that students can eat while those closest in proximity remain masked.

From the School Nurse:



Please review the *COVID Decision Chart* attached to the end of this update to determine if your child's symptoms meet the criteria for a COVID-like illness.

- If your child is showing COVID-like symptoms OR is receiving a COVID-19 PCR test...
 - **During school hours:** Call 410-766-7130 and ask to speak to the nurse.
 - **Before or after school hours:** Email covid19@mssladeschool.com.
- If you answer yes to any of the wellness survey questions, you must call the school to speak with the nurse to make sure your child is allowed to attend school OR to receive guidance on steps to return to school.
- If your child has a fever above 100.4 F but no other symptoms, your child must stay home until they are fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication.
- For families with multiple children...
 - If one child is sick, all children must stay home until the symptomatic child is evaluated by a physician and given an alternative diagnosis OR receives a negative COVID-19 PCR test.
- Please avoid medicating children before school with cough and cold medicines if they have not been evaluated by a physician or have not received a COVID-19 PCR test. Throughout the day over the counter medications wear off. As a result, children begin to show symptoms again and will be promptly sent home if they do not have a diagnosis or negative test results.

Important News & Notes (continued):

- Please keep in mind that close contacts must stay home until the symptomatic student receives an alternative diagnosis or a negative COVID-19 PCR test.
 - If your child is symptomatic, please try to get them evaluated or tested as soon as possible as a courtesy to others.
- If someone in your family is being tested for COVID-19, please email the covid19@mssladeschool.com address as soon as possible.
 - While a family member is awaiting test results, the student(s) may not attend school.
- If you choose to get a COVID-19 PCR test without seeing a physician, please go to a COVID-19 testing site staffed with medical professionals who perform the test to ensure an accurate sample is taken.
 - Self testing sites may be more convenient but it is highly unlikely that you will be able to get an accurate sample if you are self-swabbing.

Travel Protocol:

- If you are planning on traveling out of state or the country, please email covid19@mssladeschool.com.
- If you travel to areas with a >10% positivity rate, your child will require a negative COVID-19 PCR test upon return in order to be allowed back at school.

Student Absences: When in-person learners are sent home during the day due to results of contact tracing, they will be marked absent by the cohort teacher. Please note that the attendance record will be changed at the end of the day to reflect those students who attended class virtually once they returned home.

Slade Logo Masks: We still have a limited supply of Slade logo masks. Please use the following link to place an order for Slade logo masks: <https://forms.gle/KoSHy4k8pDVuuPx48>. The cost of the order will be charged to FACTS accounts. Masks will be bagged and delivered to students' homerooms. We will fill requests in the order they are received. The masks consist of four layers and are 100% cotton. They are available for \$5 each. Due to the nature of the product, all sales are final.

Grade Level Reminders:

Grades 6-8: Virtual High School Fairs: On October 6 and October 19, Catholic High Schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore will host a Virtual High School Fair for all prospective families. From 5:00pm to 7:00pm, families will have the opportunity to engage with representatives from Catholic high schools throughout the diocese. The sessions will provide a glimpse into the admissions process, highlight signature programs, and share information regarding scholarships, financial aid, transportation, and much more! Participating schools will rotate live video sessions and families may register for up to three sessions. Please visit <https://www.archbalt.org/schools/our-schools/high-school-admissions/virtual-admissions/> to register for the event and to receive access details.

Grade 8: The HSPT Registration Portal is now open. Click on the link to register your students for the December 2, 2020, test which will be held here at MSCS. The cost of the test is \$40 and must be paid online when you register. Be sure to select Monsignor Slade (005) as the site where your child will test. <https://stsusers.com/stsusers/registration/static/baltimore.php>.



Visit us on the Web!
www.msladeschool.com

Advancement Announcements:

Tell your Slade story! In a short video (1 minute or less) feature Slade students, families, or alumni. Mrs. Hilmer kindly requests .mp4 or .mov format. Inspiration and instructions are available via [slideshow](#) or the flyer shared. For specific questions or to discuss technical difficulties when sharing your files, please contact Mrs. Hilmer, c.hilmer@msladeschool.com or 410-766-7130.

Mark your calendars! Join the Advancement Committee from the comfort of home. The October meeting will be held virtually on 10/13/2020. If interested in supporting recruitment, marketing, and alumni efforts for Slade, please contact c.hilmer@msladeschool.com or 410-766-7130.

Class of 2017 Grads! We will plan a spring reunion event (virtual or socially-distant in person). Want to offer ideas and help to spread the word? Contact Mrs. Hilmer c.hilmer@msladeschool.com.

Seeking Alumni from years: 1961, 1971, 1981, 1991, 2001, & 2011. We would like to celebrate them during the anniversary year of their graduation. Please share our alumni update link: msladeschool.com/alumni

Don't forget to shop **AmazonSmile** and select Monsignor Slade as your supported charity when shopping for fall decor, wardrobe updates for the new season, the perfect Halloween costume accessories or the tools to play the spookiest Halloween trick!



October Photo Challenge! Even as we are social distancing and learning remotely, Monsignor Slade families can still ensure their student(s) shine in the spotlight on Monsignor Slade's website and social media feeds. We cannot wait to see your October Photo Challenge submissions!

HASA Happenings:



Charleston Wrap
BETTER PRODUCTS. BETTER FUNDRAISING.

Gift Wrap Sale: We are happy to announce the kick-off of our fundraiser with Charleston Wrap on Monday, October 5th. Look for the parent letter and prize award sheet to come home with your oldest/only student on Monday, and/or through email for our remote learners. In the letter, you will find the link to the online catalog, which features over 2500 gift ideas, as well as information on how to share the catalog with family and friends. The proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards the purchase of additional water bottle fill stations for our school!

Sports Section:

The Athletic Council needs your help to fill one position for this year and one starting next school year. Please consider joining the Sports team!!! We need to fill the Lacrosse Co-Commissioner this year. This is a perfect opportunity to be trained by the current commissioner on the ins and outs of running the program before his child graduates this year. All interested parties please email sladeacpresident@gmail.com for more information on how to apply.

Lacrosse Co-Commissioner

Earns all 12 required service hours each year.

The Duties of the Co-Commissioner:

- Administer all aspects of the sports program to ensure its effective and efficient management while adhering to the Slade Athletic Policy, Slade Values Code, Archdiocesan policy, and school policy.
- Provide for consistency in operation among the individual lacrosse teams where applicable.
- Participate in Athletic Council meetings.
- Cast a vote as an active member of the Council.
- Manage all aspects of the Sports program budget, including the submission of annual budgets to the school administration.
- While in season, prepare and submit monthly reports regarding the Sports program to the Athletic Council.
- Work with the current Sports Commissioner on program scheduling and fields

Secretary

Serves a three-year term starting 2021-2022 school year.

Earns all 12 required service hours each year.

The Duties of the Council Secretary:

- Attend and keep an accurate account of the minutes for all council meetings.
- Distribute meeting minutes to council members prior to the next meeting for review and approval at the next scheduled meeting.
- Maintain a file of all incoming and outgoing communications and records to and from the Council.
- Provide advance notification of all members of the Council for both special and regular meetings.
- Maintain and keep the current text of the bylaws



Mission Statement

Rooted in Catholic faith and committed to academic excellence, Monsignor Slade Catholic School is dedicated to forming the whole child to know, love, and be disciples of Christ.

Fall Conference Procedures

Please be reminded: Conferences for students in Pre-K4 through 2nd grade and conferences for all new students in grades 3-8 are mandatory. Conferences for returning students in grades 3-8 may be requested by either the teacher or the parent. This year, all conferences will be held virtually due to COVID-19. After all conference appointments have been confirmed, your child's teacher will contact you individually with log-on information for your scheduled conference.

1. All teacher-requested and mandatory conference dates and times will be sent home in a printed letter for in-person learners or by email for remote learners on Tuesday, October 6, 2020.
2. Please confirm/accept your scheduled conference time by email to Mrs. Kathie Sullivan, Support Programs Coordinator, at k.sullivan@mssladeschool.com by Friday, October 9, 2020.
3. Parent requests for conferences will be accepted on Friday, October 9, and Monday, October 12, 2020, for students in grades 3 through 8. These requests are to be emailed to Mrs. Sullivan at k.sullivan@mssladeschool.com no later than 3:00 p.m., on Monday, October 12th. Please be sure to state your child's full name and grade in the request.

Parents who have requested conferences will receive an emailed confirmation of their scheduled date and time by Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

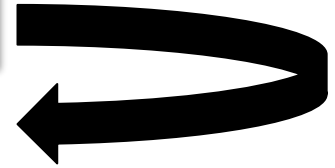
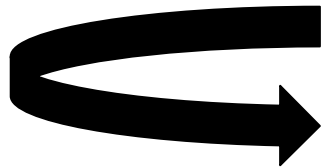
A COVID-LIKE ILLNESS IS DEFINED AS...

1 **Of the following:**
Cough
Shortness of breath
Difficulty Breathing
New loss of taste or smell

OR

2 **Of the following:**
Fever of 100.4F or higher
Chills
Muscle aches
Sore Throat
Headache
Nausea or Vomiting
Diarrhea
Fatigue
Congestion or runny nose

Stay home if symptoms begin before school, or go to the school nurse if symptoms start during the school day.



When can I return to school?

Positive COVID-19 PCR Test

May return 10 days after symptoms first appeared

AND

At least 24 hours no fever without taking medication

AND

Symptoms have improved.

Close contacts should stay home for 14 days from date of last exposure to confirmed or suspected (no alternative diagnosis) case.



No COVID-19 PCR Test Done

May return 10 days after symptoms first appeared

AND

At least 24 hours no fever without taking medication

AND

Symptoms have improved.

OR

Doctor's note with a written alternative diagnosis and symptoms have improved/no fever for 24 hours without medication.

Negative COVID-19 PCR Test

At least 24 hours no fever without taking medicine

AND

Respiratory symptoms have improved.

Close contacts *do not* need to stay home as long as they remain asymptomatic.

