

April 21, 2020

**OLMC Update - Tuesday**

Dear Our Lady of Mount Carmel School families,

Thank you to all the parents who joined my ZOOM Open House conversation yesterday evening. The theme that emerged organically throughout the two hours was: our OLMC faculty has done a great job establishing an academic routine that promotes meaningful learning despite the enormous challenges, but that our children want and need each other, miss the important social time that school offers, and crave authentic connection with their friends and peers. I get it, as we are social creatures and human connection is so important.

Throughout this experience, I have felt so appreciative that Mount Carmel is a small, close community. At this time when we are sheltered-in-place and isolated, I am so grateful that each of our 300 students has a class they can connect with, parents have a close-knit OLMC community they can count on, and our faculty and staff have a strong professional bond that elevates their teaching far beyond their subject matter. Let's continue to work together to create opportunities to find thoughtful ways so that our young scholars may continue to feel the love of the Mount Carmel community embracing each and every one of them. I am confident that we can and will be a stronger OLMC community as a result of this historic time.

I encourage you to view the personal video greeting from Pam Lyons, Superintendent of Schools, Archdiocese of San Francisco:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i9DUvvoApps&feature=youtu.be>

**Daily Attendance**

I apologize for my miscommunication yesterday. Please continue to go to the attendance link to submit your child(ren)'s attendance each morning. Think of this like getting your child to school each morning. It's the same link every day, so you may bookmark it or go to the OLMC webpage to find it.

- Daily attendance link: <https://forms.gle/t7Jyqde8bgei7wz29>
- It is also posted: <http://school.mountcarmel.org/school-closure>
- If necessary, please call Mrs. McLinden at 650-366-1051 to record your child's attendance.

**Updated OLMC Distance Learning Guide**

The attached OLMC Distance Learning Guide has been updated to include password-embedded URLs to all the different required and optional classes. Please keep this Guide handy and it is also posted on our Distance Learning webpage along with many



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valuable resources: <http://school.mountcarmel.org/school-closure/OLMC-distance-learning>

We all worked very hard in the month prior to Easter holiday to get our distance learning routines and protocols established. It is very important to remind your students about timely and prompt attendance to classes and proper behavior on Zoom classes. We know this is a challenge for parents to be simultaneously working and supervising their children at home, so it's essential for our students to rise to the occasion and follow the expectations noted in the OLMC Distance Learning Guide.

### **COVID-19 donation campaign**

Mount Carmel is a unique community that has always come together during difficult times. During this unprecedented shelter-in-place time, some of our school families are facing new challenges, including losing jobs or having their small business closed. Many other OLMC families have asked if they can help by donating money to assist families struggling to pay their tuition due to financial insecurity. If you feel called to donate, please do so by making a COVID-19 donation here:

<https://factsmgtadmin.com/give/appeal/S3Sx3JeHM>

All money collected will relieve the financial burden of tuition for families deemed to be struggling by the school administration. Your donation will go to the school's tuition assistance fund. Thank you for your generosity!

### **Student belongings left in classrooms**

Now that we are sure our school buildings will be closed for the remainder of the school year, I'm sure teachers and parents are thinking about the student belongings that were left in the classrooms and school supplies that may be needed to continue productive learning for the final six weeks of school. I will work with our teachers to make plans that are efficient for getting belongs to the students and safe for all involved in this distribution. Please await further instructions.

In solidarity,

Deborah Farrington, Ed.D.  
Principal  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel School



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