



March 22, 2020

Dear Terra Verde Community,

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Terra Verde, all of us are hoping that your families are safe and healthy. Over the last week, many of us have been on tenterhooks, watching for the next news briefing on Covid-19. As of today, there remains many unknowns as various states and cities have been experiencing diverse levels of infection. These unknowns may continue for the next few weeks as Oklahoma modifies its methods to contain any spread of the virus. As these decisions are made by government leaders, we will continue to update each of you on their impact in providing an education to your child.

Extraordinary circumstances call upon extraordinary individuals and our faculty and community at TVDS are certainly categorized as such. Over the last week, our faculty have been working diligently to learn new mediums of communication and ways to engage your children. Creativity is not something we lack, and our goal is to limit any negative academic and social regression by continuing to provide instruction. We are confident that we will learn many new tricks along the way, and with your support and feedback, we will create a meaningful student experience.

Our faculty and staff have met virtually and individual faculty will be communicating with each of you this evening 3/22/20 (if you don't believe me check out the image attached ---we are a much larger group than the Brady Bunch). Please note that I did smile for the picture! ☐

Below is an outline of important items:

- **#TVCHALLENGEOFWEEK:** One of the first orders of business is the official #TVCHALLENGEOFWEEK. We want to keep our social media pages alive and also entertain and connect with each other as much as possible. The first week challenge is to video your family, or child busting a move or singing the song "We are Family" by Sister Sledge. I've attached the link if you haven't heard this classic. Remember, FAMILY is the theme at TVDS this year and during times like these, family is critical. I'll be sending a video of me to all families this week for you to show off to the kiddos.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srjs74mLPeY>

- **We will offer Counseling Services** - We have an agreement to provide socially distant counseling to our students who might need this service during the extended time away from campus. Please email ty.bell@terraverdeschool.com if you feel your child would benefit. The service will be held through a zoom meeting with the student.
- **What communication mediums are essential for families/students?**

- Please download Zoom onto your computer or device. Our faculty/staff will provide links that will allow students to join virtual meetings. Faculty are required to hold 1 hour of live sessions with students per week. This does not include office hours, and lessons/video content that will be uploaded to Youtube.
 - <https://zoom.us>
- We have set-up the official Terra Verde Youtube Channel. Check it out below and subscribe. Please note that if you select "Playlists" the grade level is listed for your child. All videos will be found within this channel!
 - <https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCjdZ3ozxHG2b1U5y1hgKj6g>
- In Lower School IXL will be utilized for math and language arts. Individual faculty will email you to join the site and provide guidance.
 - <https://www.ixl.com>
- In Upper School Flip-grid, Renweb and the students office 365 email address will be utilized. The faculty/students have utilized these mediums before so we should be ready to go!
 - <https://info.flipgrid.com>
 - <https://www.renweb.com>
 - <https://www.officeppe.com>
- **How will assignments/activities be communicated?**
 - Each week you will receive an email on Sunday evening with the subject line reflecting: (Grade Level) Digital Week 1/2/3/ etc.
 - The supplement youtube videos will be labeled in order, so if you have a 2nd grade math lesson, you can search our channel for "2nd grade Math 1 (for first lesson), or 2nd Grade Math 2 (for second lesson). The description will include the date of the lesson so you know the order.
 - You will meet weekly for one hour with the faculty member in a live zoom meeting. The content and topics will be sent to you by the individual faculty member.
- **How will grading be impacted?** Pass/Fail grade options are available and help us adapt to the current circumstances. We can utilize these for the remainder of the final trimester if necessary but I am deferring to faculty to grade assignments during our online adventure. In middle school, this will be communicated with your child.
- **Will we remain open to educate?** Terra Verde will remain open to provide socially distant education throughout the COVID-19 event. Our plan is to be responsive, committed, and to communicate extensively with each of you to provide the best experience we can given the circumstances.
- **How long will this last?**
 - We are currently planning two weeks of online offerings with an understanding that this global event may continue through April and May. Terra Verde's campus is closed until April 6th, 2020 at this time. Our plan is to tweak our offerings/expectations and to constantly explore better ways to engage our students. The faculty/staff will continue our weekly meetings and are in constant communication.
- **Parent expectations?**
 - We realize that many of you will still be going to work, or working from home. You do not need to replicate an 8 hour instructional day with your child. Our goal is provide them with content to entertain and engage in learning. We encourage you to take time to enjoy your child while working on a few of our assignments with them!

Other information:

- I've attached two food menus from restaurants offering family style meals. If you do plan to order lunch from El Toro they are requested a call prior to 10:30 am for lunch and 2:30 pm for dinner.
- I've been in contact with Norman Regional regarding ways we can support them. As I receive requests, I will forward those items to you all!

In closing:

- Terra Verde will remain a place where students have the opportunity to learn, no matter the circumstances. While this crisis may impact our ability to communicate in person, it will not prohibit our efforts to provide an education to your child.
- Thank you to each of you for your patience as we carefully consider how best to support our community. We all recognize that you are what makes TVDS special and we take our role to provide an unparalleled experience seriously. Stay healthy and upbeat, and be on the lookout for my first music video. ☐ The office phone is operating as we have forwarded all calls.

Sincerely,

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