



CORONAVIRUS UPDATE – 5:00pm – 3/27/2020

Dear Greentree Christian School parents and families,

Due to the growing health concern caused by COVID-19 (coronavirus) Greentree Christian School is closed to students effective through the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

I hope this letter finds you all well and healthy. Due to the Governor's mandate that came out Monday, March 23 here is how it applies to Greentree Christian School. In his initial remarks/press conference the Governor stated public schools. In the follow up Q and A it was clarified the mandate applies to both public and private schools, for the remainder of the school year. Gleaning all of the information from the Governor, the Bishop of the United Methodist Church, and the pastors it is determined that we do need to consider our school year finished. A mandate for closure is both unprecedented and calls forth more questions than answers.

Regarding invoicing, a letter went out last Friday, March 20th delaying the invoicing due April 1. As our status has changed since last Friday, below is updated information concerning, invoicing, tuition, and billing. We recognize that we did miss 2 weeks of attendance in March, due to coronavirus induced closures. Because our tuition is equally divided into 9 payments the days missed were accounted for in our weather and emergency closures plan. We will not be invoicing or collecting tuition for April 2020. Greentree recognizes that all families have paid a "pay-ahead" tuition installment, to be applied to the last month of school attendance in a school year. The payments that have been made for tuition due May 1, 2020 will be applied to the first tuition invoice for the 2020-2021 school year. The first tuition payment for the upcoming school year would have been invoiced May 20 and due by June 1. If you have a returning student, or a sibling, or are a returning Greentree family with a student registered for the 2020-2021 school year the pre-paid May 2020 tuition payment will be credited to your first tuition payment of the upcoming school year. If your student or family is not returning to Greentree in the fall, as they are aging out of our program, your May 2020 tuition will be refunded. Regarding Kindergarten tuition, the following will apply. Kindergarten instruction will continue through distance learning. We will not be invoicing for April 2020 tuition for Kindergarten students. Your pre-paid May 2020 tuition will be applied to a 50% discounted rate for April 2020 and May 2020 to encapsulate online learning for all Kindergarten students to finish out Standards of Learning instruction. No further Kindergarten tuition will be collected.

We miss all of our Greentree friends dearly and look forward to the opportunity when we can gather together again. It is our hope to invite all of our friends back for an "End of the School Year" party. We want to be able to celebrate the end of the year with class parties, water days, moon bounce fun, etc. We also want to celebrate our four year olds with a promotion ceremony and recognize our Greentree Kindergarten graduates, the class of 2020. We are unsure when this will happen; however, we will be looking to close out the school year with proper pomp and circumstance, fun, hugs, and proper goodbyes from classroom teachers.

We hope that you have all been enjoying our Greentree Morning Meetings on Facebook. We will continue these Morning Meetings, daily, next week (March 30-April 3). We will take a break from daily Morning Meetings during our scheduled Spring Break; however, look for links and fun videos of Youtube

read-alouds, etc. After Spring Break we will be coming to you with a Morning Meeting or fun enrichment activity from one of our specialty teachers. We realize school is not in session; however, we know these “touchpoints” are important to helping us all get through these uncertain times by continuing to stay in relation with others. We love our Greentree families and hope this will help us all stay connected. Teachers may still continue to post on their individual class FB pages, Shutterfly accounts, or class emails. Look forward to details during next week’s Morning Meetings about a drive thru Easter parade.

Christ Church Camps registration is open and available online. The option is available to register and pay or to reserve a spot and let us know you are coming, choosing to pay at a later date. Due to the uncertain times, we have to offer the caveat that summer camp dates are planned for, but may need to be adjusted if additional closures are merited. We look forward to welcoming many of our Greentree friends back to the classrooms for exciting summer fun. We have also extended our Camp Greentree option with an extension option for Rising 1st-Rising 3rd graders.

Greentree is currently exploring the possibility to offer essential employee care. A decision has not been made yet. Please let us know if this is something you would need and utilize. If this is an avenue we decide to take, we would hold to and meet or exceed all mandates from the Department of Social Services and the United Methodist Church. Many regulations have been put in place to ensure all precautions are put in place for facilities providing such care and options to essential employees. Please email us at hgreene@christchurchva.org if this is a service that you would need and/or use.

Christ Church worship will be available online for the next several weeks. We invite our Greentree families to join us March 29, April 5, April 12 (Easter), and April 19. Services will be available online at both 9:30 and 11:00 AM. Please join us in worshipping online. Looking for interaction with your church community – jump in the live chat during any of the services. www.christchurchva.org/churchonline

There truly are no words to describe the day to day feelings and changes that we face and that impact our day to day comings and goings and interactions. I have read this week that we should adopt the term “physical distancing” rather than “social distancing.” It is true.... We are seeing an uptick in folks caring for others and connecting with others in new and unique ways. The social connections are so important, and those can occur while we physically distance ourselves. Please continue to pray for those infected, as well as their families, our communities, nation, and the world as we all navigate the unknown. Prayers for health and peace.

Blessings and Peace to you all,

Heather Greene

Greentree Christian School Director