



March 6, 2020

Dear BFS Families,

This is an important follow-up to our previous COVID-19 Update, which you received on Wednesday.

The last two days at school have been a time of thoughtful preparation, collaboration, and decision-making related to the following matters:

Trips

After much reflection as well as communication with our insurance company, we have canceled an upcoming college counseling sponsored tour of mid-Atlantic colleges and another to the White Privilege Conference in Arizona at the beginning of April. Affected families have been notified. Decisions about other school-sponsored trips in the spring will be made closer to the dates of the trips.

As of the moment, next week's local-day trips and the two day trips for Lower School Spring Camp will proceed. A first grade class trip has been canceled. Decisions about trips in the spring will be made closer to the time of the trips.

Emergency Closing Communications

BFS uses an emergency text messaging system and voice messaging system based on the data you provide in My Backpack. The School will send a test message on Monday to the phone numbers currently on file. If you do not receive the message, check that your data is correctly recorded in My Backpack. Also, send an e-mail message to covidresponse@brooklynfriends.org so that we can follow up with you.

Remote Learning

Plans for remote learning in the event of a prolonged school closing are underway at all grade levels and will soon be tested to ensure that they work properly. An overview of the plans for each division is below and additional details, as needed, will be available from the Division Heads next week. Please note that some of the learning plans will involve access to technology/internet access. If this presents a challenge to your family, please let your division head know.

- [Preschool](#)
- [Lower School](#)
- [Middle School & Upper School](#)

In Closing

Above all, the BFS Leadership Team expresses deep appreciation to our colleagues and our families as together we navigate this situation and prepare for all contingencies. Teaching and learning, with children always at the center, continues to be our guiding principle. Keeping calm, well-informed, and communicating effectively is a primary goal as we move forward. Thankfully, your children allow us to have perspective each and every day and help us to center on what matters most - our shared humanity.

In partnership and peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Crissy". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Crissy and the BFS Leadership Team

REMINDER: Please refer to the [COVID-19 information page](#) on the BFS website for current and previous school communications as well as links to resources for talking to your children to help manage anxiety, and governmental and health resources regarding COVID-19.