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 March 29, 2020



WELCOME BACK AS WE BEGIN ANEW!

- [CLICK HERE](#) to see the March 27, 2020 video message to the community from Crissy
- **NEW!** [CLICK HERE](#) to see a one-minute **welcome back** video from Maura (PS), Jackie (LS), Glen (MS) and Lisa (US)

After a two-week Spring Break, ***school resumes tomorrow morning*** with a robust virtual BFS teaching and learning program in place for ALL students. Colleagues spent many hours learning new skills, collaborating with each other, and planning together to make this happen. Thank you, one and all!

On March 26 BFS Division Heads sent families detailed instructions, sample schedules, and resources to prepare your children for **virtual BFS**.

To help manage this flow of information, keep these links handy:

- [Virtual BFS Hub](#)

Instructions and Resources for online learning, by division: Middle/Upper School (including College Counseling); Lower School, Preschool/Family Center. Also included here is a section on "Support from Our Counselors and Psychologists"

- [Creative Ideas and Resources for Home](#)

A curated listing of resources for parents and children by topic — in Art, Music, Reading, STEM, parenting, motivation, coping in a crisis, and more. (Suggestions are welcome; reply to this e-mail)

- [COVID Response](#)

An archive of BFS Communications on COVID-19 from Feb. 27, 2020 to the present, plus official federal, state and city website links for COVID-19.

NEW and Important!

Connecting with the School Counselor/School Psychologist at Virtual BFS

During this unprecedented time, as we all transition to a new temporary normal, it is completely normal for you and your children to be responding with a myriad of feelings and reactions. Knowing the importance of social/emotional and mental health well-being for all, we want to communicate how our counselors and psychologists will be available to our community as we begin virtual BFS in our remote learning model. [READ details in this letter](#) from our divisional psychologists/counselors.

Since mid-March, our school counselor/school psychologist team has offered many resources for coping on the BFS COVID-19 and Virtual BFS remote learning hubs. For your reference, many of those articles, resources and tips can be found [here](#).

Afterschool Rides Again!

Our Lower and Middle School afterschool and music lesson program also resumes the week of March 30. While not every specialty class or lesson can take place online, many are resuming. Parents have been notified of the schedules. If you have any questions, please send an e-mail message to afterschool@brooklynfriends.org.



BFS Service Learning and Civic Engagement COVID-19 Action Opportunities

Informed and responsible service learning and civic engagement take on added significance during a crisis. Natania Kremer, BFS Director of Service Learning and Civic Engagement has started a [document to gather resources](#) for the BFS community. This is a work in progress. If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please reach out to Natania, nkremer@brooklynfriends.org.

Staying in Touch

Now that school is back in session, you'll be hearing more from us through social media, targeted e-mails, and the BFS website. If you have any questions or concerns, reply to this e-mail message or send an e-mail to covidresponse@brooklynfriends.org. ***All the school buildings are closed and will remain closed through April 20, at the earliest.***

News You Can Use

Parents have e-mailed to the school with some helpful news and suggestions. One item shared is that the New York City free breakfast and lunch program is open to all students in the city, not just public school students. Family members may pick up the meals for the children, and there is no registration or documentation needed. The hours are Mon-Fri, 7:30 to 1:30. [GO HERE](#) to find a location near you.

Guided by the Quaker belief that there is a Divine Light in everyone, Brooklyn Friends School cultivates an intellectually ambitious and diverse community that celebrates each individual's gifts. We challenge our students to value and embrace difference as they develop critical thinking skills and apply their knowledge and intelligence both in and out of the classroom. In this rich learning environment, we inspire all members of our community to voice their convictions, to discover and pursue their passions, and to seek truth. Our graduates are compassionate, curious, and confident global citizens who let their lives speak in the spirit of leadership and service.

4/13/2020

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