Dear SOCS Parents: Friday, March 27

The purpose of this letter is to update you as we move into week 3 of this challenge.

* **Spring Break Coming This Week**: Three more days of school until we take a break beginning Thursday, April 2. We will not be assigning work from April 2-April 12. I think we ALL need a break.
* **Coming Soon—Word From State Of Michigan Re The Rest Of The School Year** The Governor has promised that either this coming week or next, we will have guidance regarding the State’s plan for the remainder of the year. While we are not bound by most of what the State declares, it definitely affects what we do. As soon as the State’s plans are in place, I will update you as to what those plans are and how they may affect SOCS.
* **Length Of This Public School Closure:** I am confident the soon-to-be-announced plans referred to above will provide us much needed guidance on the length of the public school closure. I do believe it is reasonable for all of us to prepare for a lengthy extension of this closure, as I am very skeptical of a return to normal any time soon. However….
* **Our Purpose And Goal:** No matter how long this closure lasts, our intention is to continue teaching and learning. Our purpose is to progress as normally as possible through the learning objectives we have for your child AND to prevent the loss of the many gains he or she has made this year. If we together work hard, we can
  + complete the year on time,
  + have a great summer, and
  + return to school ready to learn on September 1.
* **Prayers For Our Parent Community - This Too Shall Pass:** Let’s continue to pray for each other next week and throughout the upcoming break from school. Looking beyond, most of us are caught between the resolve that we need to navigate this challenging public health crisis and the longing for “life as normal.” Take heart, this too shall pass! Let’s keep focused on God and his Word, what we can ALL do to shorten this time (stay at home!), and the day when we will be able to shake hands, hug, and laugh together from closer than 6 ft.! Please, do not hesitate to contact me with your questions and concerns.

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