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## Christ has Risen, He Has Risen Indeed

## Hello KCS Community,

1 Peter 1:3 English Standard Version (ESV) Born Again to a Living Hope

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

I want to thank our entire community for their participation in our "soft start" week of offsite learning at Kelowna Christian School. We met for three hours as a leadership team on Thursday afternoon to celebrate the successes as well as to reflect on what we learned. As we navigate through the next ten weeks together, our focus continues to be on community/family connections, faith-formation, inquiry, numeracy, and literacy. We want to continue to be a Christian school and want to build community from afar. As a leadership team, we will continue to learn and listen to how we can best serve our community in Christ.

These extraordinary times are also hard times for so many. In my connections with parents this week, I have learned that each of our 442 families has unique new challenges. Some families have both parents working more than full time and adding any model of day time offsite learning feels insurmountable. Many families are facing uncertainty in their employment and/or childcare and don't know what next week looks like, let alone the next 2.5-months. Our essential support worker families are champions of the front lines and are likely worn out by the time they get home. Some families ask for bare minimum education and grace, while others are asking for enrichment and challenge. Some students love offsite learning, but many long to be with their peers onsite and mourn that they cannot be. As a father of four ages 12 and under, and with my wife (Haley) working 4-days per week at the hospital, I am empathetic that extraordinary can equate to difficult and challenging. I am also empathetic that many of your challenges far exceed my own. Please continue to pray for all in our village; your prayers are so vital to who we are and what we all need.

I was reminded by a member of our school board this week that this is not our school, but Christ's school. As we navigate through our new normal, I am prayerful that Kelowna Christian School can be a place that can show the utmost community care and connection to all of our students and all of our families. Our staff worked very hard this week to deliberately begin our programming, and our staff have admirable ideas on how to increase offsite community connection in the coming weeks. Community and personalized connection and care are what are paramount at this time. Our staff are asked to keep in mind the following from Dr. Brad Johnson:

Relationships before Rigor Grace before Grades Patience before Programs Love before Lessons

To help meet every family where they are at, we hope that the level 1 (bare minimum) instruction can meet the needs of all families and that our level 2 inquiry and level 3 buffet options can provide the added connection and enrichment that some families seek. Our admin team will meet weekly to assess adaptations that need to be made to achieve our goals.

"Christ has risen, He has Risen indeed". This is something that we will rejoice tomorrow. This is a long weekend to celebrate and be reminded of the most fantastic sacrifice in human history, Jesus' sacrifice of His life at



Calvary for all of our sins. I am humbled every time I think about this. The gospel message must permeate what we do at Kelowna Christian School. Kelowna Christian School community, these are challenging times. We are mourning different things, but it is my deep hope and prayer that our students draw closer to Christ amidst the uncertainties during the current pandemic. We are praying as a school that we find new ways to help our students and families encounter Christ, lean on Christ, recognize Christ, and give Christ the glory over the next ten weeks and that this will transfer to a lifetime. God has a plan, and God is always faithful, and I am praying we lean on this well as a faith-based community. Happy Easter, my friends.

This is a challenging and humbling time to lead in, but I also love my calling as it is a privilege to work for you, in Christ, at Kelowna Christian School. Your affirmations to our staff and admin were a fantastic boost during a time where I know we are going to face some significant challenges. I am encouraged and excited to lead with you as we navigate through these uncharted waters together.

Ps. K- Grade 5 Birthday Kinder Surprise deliveries should begin later this week. I

have a month of catching up to do :)

Please enjoy this Easter message from Mr. Tim Martens (High School) and some of our Middle and High School students this week.



Drive By Easter Chapel

Blessings,

Mike Campbell Head of School



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