

James 1:2-4 "Testing of Your Faith"

2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Greetings,

This is a quick email to let you know that Kelowna Christian School will be opening for our students on Tuesday, September 8th. Our teaching and support staff return on August 31st to prepare well for welcoming our students for a halfday on the 8th. Our leadership team has been planning all summer for a safe, hospitable, and dynamic restart to onsite learning.

I have spent the past month connecting with so many of you via phone, email, text, or in-person (by distance, sometimes golfing). There are a wide variety of fears and anxieties during these unprecedented times. Some of our families fear that there is a slippery slope of freedoms being lost while others fear that the reopening of school will cause critical harm to a loved one with an immunecompromised system (many fear both). While our families have diverse feelings during this atypical time, we all share a belief that our God is sovereign over all and is faithful all the time. I love reading the opening chapter of James, as it reminds me that we can lean on God during anxious times, and we can find joy knowing that God uses all circumstances to make us stronger. I often pray that our Christ-centred community will not be divided when we return, but that we will will become more joy-filled in Christ.

Our leadership team are not medical doctors. We will lean solely on the safety protocols mandated to us by the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Health Authority while ensuring that Kelowna Christian School remains hospitable and community-focused for our students. Our leadership team has been working hard throughout August to create a safe and creative 21st-century learning community for all students. We must ensure compliance in all areas while making the school feel like it did when we welcomed students back one year ago. We will continue to partner with all parents in providing a safe, meaningful,

and robust program for your child. We are excited that the cohort model allows us to primarily keep all of our students together in a single grade, and life within the cohort will, in most ways, mirror the learning before COVID. We continue to see obstacles as new opportunities to act out our mission and vision.

As parents, you can look up the protocols that we must follow in <u>this link</u>. Here you will find the answers to your most common questions, such as mask use (masks can be used by any student but are only mandated for middle and high school students when they cannot maintain physical distance when in close proximity to a person outside of their regular cohort) and how we will work with home and the health authority if there is a Covid-19 outbreak.

On August 24th, our leadership team all return full time. We are here to listen and to help you with any questions you may have. Fear is often in the unknown, and unprecedented times create much misinformation and misunderstanding. Please <u>contact me</u> or one of the leadership team members with any questions, concerns, or ideas that we can assist you with. We want you to be informed and our school leaders will have the most up to date answer on most of your KCS questions.

Our campus leaders will share more about campus protocols by the end of next week. Our leadership team has worked very hard this summer; please pray for them as they lead and navigate throughout this pandemic. I am thankful for a leadership team that seeks to care for our students in all they plan.

Blessings,

Mike Campbell HEAD OF SCHOOL



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