

December 15, 2021

Dear ALCS Parents,

We are 5 days away from Christmas Vacation and everyone is striving for it. We want to finish strong . . . and healthy!

Unfortunately, since Thanksgiving Vacation, we have been hard hit by illness. The Coronavirus and its variants are being felt within our student body as well as a stomach bug that is making the rounds.

Our desire is in-person learning every day. Yet, the viral spread is taking its toll on our classes and teachers. As frustrating as it is for parents to have a quarantined student or worrisome to have a sick child, it is equally challenging for our teachers.

We again ask that every parent commit themselves to doing a DAILY WELLNESS CHECK based on the [Home-Based Symptoms checklist](#) (as found on our website) before bringing your child to school. We continue to monitor health here at ALCS, but the fewer sick kids coming through the doors, the better.

IF a child is not feeling well, please be cautious and keep your child home to make sure it's just a fleeting thing vs a real illness. ([see our website for wellness or home-based symptoms screening information HERE](#))

PLANNING AHEAD: Due to the surge in Coronavirus cases after Thanksgiving break, we will be returning to school post-Christmas Vacation virtually for K-12 for one week.

Please note that this is *not* an extra week of vacation, but a week to ensure the health of students and to limit potential spread of illness from travel and/or holiday activities. Classes will resume in-person on campus on Monday, January 10.

K-2 will pick up packets of work and partner with their teachers for the virtual week. Grades 3 – 5 will work with their teachers in the LMS. Our MS and HS students will complete their work in their Google Classrooms. Classes will be focused for K-12 on the cores – Bible, Math, English, Science, and Social Studies. Electives and Specials will hold for that one week.

Chapel: We will provide a chapel for Elementary and for MS/HS on Wednesday, January 5. Students will have a link in their Bible classrooms (LMS & Google) as well as the link being emailed to parents (K-12).

SEMESTER CHANGE: In order to ensure that our semester classes finish well and to give the students the best possible chance to wrap the First Semester successfully, we are extending the semester by two days. We will end the semester on Tuesday, January 11th, so that faculty and students have two extra days to wrap tests and learning. Report cards will shift back and be provided to parents on Friday, January 21.

We know the challenges this brings to you as we shift to virtual learning for a week. However, for the health & wellness of all, we must do what is necessary. We employed this shift last year and you – our families – took it seriously. We did not have any illness or spread of the virus at school after Christmas Vacation last year contrasted with the spread we have had after Thanksgiving this year. We ask you do the same this year and together we can keep our school healthy & well!

As a final reminder, ALCS is a private COVID testing site for our students and families. Let us know if you need assistance.

Thank you!
Doug Butler

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