

Dear St. Michael families,

As the emerging public health concerns posed by the novel coronavirus are at the forefront of news media, we want to assure you that we are closely monitoring COVID-19, commonly known as coronavirus, and are committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for St. Michael School students and staff . We will continue to monitor absenteeism and follow guidance from local, state, and national public health authorities regarding any new developments based on what is currently known about the transmission and severity of COVID-19.

There are several things that we can all do to help minimize the risk of exposure. These are the same basic steps we should be taking every day to help prevent the spread of illnesses such as the flu and the common cold.

- Wash your hands frequently. Keeping hands clean through improved hand hygiene is one of the most important steps we can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. In addition, having hand sanitizer readily available is always a good idea.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands. Put your used tissue in a waste basket and wash your hands after coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick, or who appear to have symptoms of a respiratory illness.
- Stay home if you are ill and seek medical attention.

St. Michael School is expanding its normal flu season cleaning protocol to include:

- Daily wipe downs of all frequently touched surfaces including tables and desks, doorknobs, light switches, keyboards, trash receptacles, water stations, and restroom areas
- Increased number of hand sanitizer stations

Please check the following reliable sources for the up-to-date, accurate information about COVID-19:

- [City of Lincoln Health Department](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)

With continued and aggressive attention to good hygiene and cleaning/disinfecting practices, we can all do our part to help keep our school community healthy. We will continue to monitor and provide updates as the situation develops and new information becomes available.

St. Michael, pray for us!

+Blessings,

Sue Braun