



Sunday March 1, 2020

Dear Shelton Academy families,

We have a great educational opportunity in our hands; due to the circumstances affecting so many in the world it has become a priority to develop, and to teach our children, good habits of personal health. A couple of weeks ago one of you sent me an email pointing out the need to promote the value of healthy eating and good personal care; I was grateful for the email and we have been considering options since then. The warnings regarding the spread of the coronavirus make it now imperative to implement safety measures of basic hygiene; and thus, start taking steps towards the overall good health of our families.

The global coronavirus situation is rapidly evolving and expanding; at Shelton Academy we are closely monitoring the latest CDC updates for guidance on the most effective prevention measures. Currently, we disinfect all areas with a hospital-grade solution at the end of every day; but we are expanding this service to additional areas to clean and disinfect as an extra precaution. We have added more soap dispensers to every bathroom in the school, added hand sanitizer to classrooms and high traffic areas, and placed canisters with disinfectant wipes in every room in the school. Our elementary school teachers will take the students to wash their hands before meals and after recess; and additional times will be provided for the students for this purpose.

For guidelines to help prevent the spread of the flu please read the included documents with information from the CDC and Miami-Dade County. Additionally, it is imperative that our families adhere to the travel restrictions posted on the CDC Coronavirus summary page and follow appropriate safety precautions. With increased media coverage and concern about coronavirus, it is important for families to be participants in keeping the school population healthy, not just from unseen risk of coronavirus, but from the flu as well, which is still affecting students. Please discuss good habits – as outlined in the attached documents – with your children just as we will do school.

Here are the notes for the next two weeks.

- **Reenrollment Special:** although the period for the discounted enrollment fee is now closed, we are offering a special opportunity this Wednesday at school. For those of you still looking to re-enroll we invite you to stop in this Wednesday at the time of drop-off or pick-up; we are setting up two desks to provide on-site guidance in completing this process. We will be available from 8:00 to 9:00 in the morning and from 2:00 to 4:00 in the afternoon. The re-enrollment fee on that day is \$400, which you could pay at the desk by cash, check, or credit card. Please take advantage of this great opportunity. Families not enrolled after this date will receive a courtesy call from the school inquiring about your enrollment intentions for next school year.
- **Early Release Wednesday:** this Wednesday March 4 is an early release day; all students in Preschool to 8th grade are dismissed at 2:00pm. After School Care begins promptly at 2:30pm. Please be mindful of the change in dismissal times on this day.
- **School Mass Change of Date:** our School Mass for the month of March, originally scheduled for this Friday March 6, has been moved to Monday March 9 at 10:00. Likewise, the rest of school Masses will be on a Monday; those would be on April 6 and May 4. Families are always welcome to attend; we do have a few rows of chairs available for those parents that join us.
- **Book Fair and Family Movie Night:** Our Spring Book Fair preview sale is this Friday March 6th from 5pm - 7pm (You can set up your ewallet prior to that date, see attached letter). Family movie night will follow the book fair preview at sunset (around 7). For those who are able, we encourage you to carpool as we have limited parking space and would like to accommodate as many families as possible. We'll have food for sale! Book Fair continues Monday March 9 thru Friday March 13.
- **DIVE Family Field Trip:** Saturday March 7 is the date of our second DIVE family field trip, which will take place at Oleta River State Park. The space is limited. You will need to register through Nature Postings: <https://www.naturepostings.com/>.
- **Shelton Talk on The Challenges of Educating Our Children:** on Thursday March 12 at 7:00pm we will have another presentation for families and everyone in the community. The title of this talk is "The 5 most effective alternatives to improve the relationship with our children" and the presenter is Mrs. Cristina Gomez, our Director of Exceptional Education. Please distribute the attached flyer to everyone you think may benefit from this presentation.
- **Admissions Open House:** on Friday March 13 from 9:00 to 2:00 we have another Admissions Open House to help prospective families get to know about Shelton Academy. If you know of a family that could be interested in learning more about our school, please invite them to visit us or to call us to schedule a tour. Thank you!

- **Next Year Calendar:** the calendar for the next school year is almost ready; we are still adding a few events and soon it will be posted on our website. Whenever possible, we tried to follow the Miami-Dade County Public Schools calendar in terms of start, end, and Teacher Planning Days. Our Meet and Greet is on Monday August 24, the first day of school is Tuesday August 25, and our last day of school is Wednesday June 9.
- **Shelton Academy in Alabama:** please know that our email address for the Welcome Center is info@sheltonacademyschools.com, please be sure to use this address when notifying the school. It so happens that “info@sheltonacademy.com” is the address for a school in Alabama; they have called us to say that they are receiving emails about a change in drop-off, a missing backpack, a student being absent, ... 😊
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Wednesday March 4: Early Release Day.
 - Friday March 6: Book Fair Preview and Family Movie Night.
 - Saturday March 7: Dive Field Trip for all Families.
 - Sunday March 8: Daylight Savings Time Begins.
 - Monday March 9: School Mass at 10:00.
 - Thursday March 12: Shelton Talk on The Challenges of Educating our Children.
 - Friday March 13: Admissions Open House 9:00 to 2:00.

Sincerely,

Juan Mata
Headmaster