



The Prairie Page #4

March 26, 2020

"Loving, Learning & Leading Through this New Chapter in God's Story."

LOVING

As things continue to get more serious and more restrictive, we can draw wisdom from our predecessors. In 1527 when the Bubonic Plague came to his town, Martin Luther wrote the following:

"I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me however I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely as stated above. See this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God."

LEARNING

If you are looking for activity ideas for connecting student learning to everyday living, check out the last page of our ["TfT Family Resource."](#)

Aligning with this week's Throughline focus, "Community Building," we think it's critical to connect with your students beyond email. For many students, this will feel like the start of a new school year and making a phone call will go a long way to making them feel (re)connected. We know you're busy changing all of your plans, making video tutorials, learning new technologies, etc. but we think sending home less than perfect plans for a couple days and spending time calling your students will be well worth your time and may even encourage you at a time when you are probably missing your student's voice. Here are some possible questions:

- How are you doing?
- What are you enjoying about learning from home?
- What's been the hardest part?
- What can I do to help you learn?
- How can I pray for you and your family?

Here are some other things that can be addressed:

- Where can they go for help if they are stuck or don't have the needed support at home?

- Is there work that they have already completed that you can encourage them about?
- How will you be assessing them... addressing the worry of repeating a grade
- Any ideas they have for you

Most of all, ensure the students feel like they still belong and have a teacher that will be there for them and loves them. This will be time well spent!

LEADING

It was great to see some of you on our Leaders Zoom on Tuesday! These virtual “face to face” conversations are important. One question that was asked yesterday, was wondering what schools/societies are doing about fees for the rest of the year. We created a spot in Slack for schools to share their information. Please have a look in the “school-leaders” channel and add your thoughts to the conversation. If you haven’t yet joined our Slack community, we encourage you to. It will be a primary collaboration and sharing space to support our work as Christian school leaders. If you are having any issues getting connected or finding your way around, please call Gayle (780-915-9504) or Jeremy (587-679-5615) and we’ll walk you through it. To manage your notifications: click on the gear button (by the search box) and select your preference. We’d love for you to select “every new message.” :) With spring breaks happening at different times, some of our schools are finishing up their first week of remote-learning. It has been a steep learning curve for staff, students and parents. As such, we recommend that you take stock of how things are going so that you can respond to issues and address concerns early in the process. To facilitate this, we have created some surveys (parent, staff, teacher) that you can send to your community at the end of your first week (or when you choose to do so). Some advice from a school that did this: give everyone a quick timeframe to complete (they did 12 hours), have the leadership team meet ASAP to review the results, communicate the results to your community including the changes you will be making based on the feedback. When you click on the links below, you will be asked to create a copy of the survey and as such you will receive the results (not PCCE). If you do not want to use GoogleForms, find the questions [HERE](#).

[PARENT SURVEY](#)

[STAFF SURVEY](#)

[TEACHER SURVEY](#)