

Dear Khalsa Families,

We hope that you are well and staying safe during this time of uncertainty. As Governor Ducey has extended the Stay-at-Home order until May 15<sup>th</sup>, we are pausing to observe and reflect on the slow process of re-opening the economy before we make our decision regarding the summer programs. We are simultaneously planning to open and to close. We would never have thought that we would find ourselves in such an interesting dichotomy.

You will receive a link to the annual Parent Survey today. We invite you to respond and give us valuable feedback regarding this school year. We have included some questions about the school's response to the closure ordered by the Governor and our alternate learning opportunities.

Khalsa School's learning continues with:

- Faculty updating assignments on the on-line Khalsa Learning Hubs
- Spanish and Yoga teachers providing class through virtual instruction
- Online connections include zoom class meetings, book discussions, and classroom office hours
- Kindergarten students have assignments through the on-line Final Year Learning Hub
- New videos are posted to the Khalsa YouTube channel including series of: "A Handful of Quiet", "the Lifecycle of Butterflies" & "Strawberry Recipes"
- Middle school students' Adventure Trip was virtually experienced each day of the week from Palo Verde Nuclear Power Plant to the Mars Land Rover
- Toddler and Primary staff have continued to create learning packets of hands-on project materials
- Lower Elementary classes focus on science themes and projects this month
- Final Year Upper Elementary students continue to work with teachers on their yearlong Research Project

Change has become the norm and we continue to support our students through their level of engagement with our various offerings. Online learning will continue over this remaining month of the school year. Summer school will be on campus or not at all.

As our priority is the health and safety of every child, parent, and staff member, we have developed safety protocols for when we do re-open. All of us look forward to meeting in person again. We want to assure families that the Montessori philosophy is uniquely suited to tailoring students' educational instruction to meet students wherever they are when normal, in-person instruction resumes. As the whole planet has experienced similar disruptions in learning, we are all blazing an unknown trail. We will offer academics lessons as well as focus on assessing our students' emotional/social needs when school re-opens. The practice of self-care is important for all of us and spending family quality time together.

The faculty and staff are "here" for you. Please email your lead teacher or call the phone number for your respective campus with any requests or concerns.

Blessings of health and wellness,

Karen Paxton and Keerat Giordano