

Dear Linden Waldorf School Community,

As we reach the end of our first week of Spring Break, I wanted to reach out to hear how you are managing this new reality we share, as well as let you know what to expect in the coming days and weeks as we prepare to launch our distance learning platform.

### **Distance Learning**

We will begin distance learning on Monday, March 30. Over the course of the coming week, building on the faculty and staff professional development day last Friday, our teachers will continue to craft a program that connects with you and your children remotely, while nourishing and protecting the essentials of beauty, goodness, and truth that are foundational to Waldorf education and our school.

As we meet this challenge, we are also mindful of the importance of tending to our community health during this time of isolation. We are committed to sustaining our deeply human connection and vibrant community life while maintaining social and physical distance. This will require genuine willingness, flexibility, and humor of all of us as we navigate this together.

#### What You Can Expect

We will be using Google Classroom and Google Hangouts Meet as our primary tools for continuing instruction and communicating via video chat. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with <u>Google</u> <u>Classroom here</u> and <u>Google Hangouts Meet here</u>.

To help us shape our program and proactively partner with you, <u>please complete this short Technology</u> <u>Survey</u> to let us know of any challenges you foresee in participating in online distance learning.

Each class has been set up with its own Google Classroom and every teacher for that class, including subject teachers, will be able to provide content for their students. Depending on the age of the class, the content will either be geared towards parents or towards students. Many of our teachers have already uploaded lively videos of themselves leading lessons suitable to follow at home. I think you're in for a treat!

For ease of the teachers in identifying the families in their Google Classrooms, we are setting up a login for each student that parents will use to access the material. I will be sending an e-mail with specific instructions on how to gain access to your student's school Google login, as well as our expectations of families and students in using these platforms, in the coming days.

In the meanwhile, I hope you'll consider giving Google Hangouts a test run! The faculty has had fun putting it to good use to collaborate this week and I know they're eager to "see" you and your children soon.

I'll be in touch early next week. As always, I'm just an e-mail away.

In service,

Tricia Drake, Head of School

Linden Waldorf School Serving Children in Early Childhood through Eighth Grade 3201 Hillsboro Pike • Nashville, TN 37215 • 615.354-0270 ext. 26 • <u>lindenwaldorf.org</u>

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