



Dear HeartPrints Families,

We appreciate your patience as we have continued to monitor the spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The health and safety of our children, families and teachers is our number one concern. We will continue to enforce our standard cleaning and sickness policies to protect our students and staff.

Current Health Practices:

- All employees and students will wash hands upon entry to the classrooms
- Frequent handwashing of adults and children throughout the day encouraged over hand sanitizer
- All classrooms contain hand sanitizer for students and staff to use
- Sick children will be sent home and must remain home for at least 24 hours
- Using disinfectant cleaners on all surfaces throughout the day

Additional Measures being Implemented:

- *Adults and siblings must also wash their hands upon entering the classrooms at arrival*
- Families encouraged to wash their hands upon leaving the classrooms for the day
- The Regional Learning Alliance has agreed to disinfect common spaces, and frequently touched objects such as doorknobs, frequently throughout the day
- Monitor family travel plans
- Monitor CDC, PA Department of Health and Allegheny Department of Health recommendations

Things Parents Should Do:

1. Keep children home who appear sick
2. Take children to a doctor if you suspect illness
 - a. The CDC recommends calling your doctor before reporting to the doctor's office
3. Children may not return to school until at least 24-hour fever and symptom free
4. Teach children safe practice:
 - a. Sneeze or cough into elbow or tissue
 - b. Wash hands with warm soapy water for 20 seconds (sing *Happy Birthday* twice)
 - c. Practice using a tissue properly and throwing it away

We ask that you are extra cautious in sending your child to school at this time. If a family member or your child is presenting any symptoms characteristic of the COVID-19 Virus including fever, cough, or shortness of breath, please do not send them to school until symptoms have passed and you have consulted a doctor. While the virus does appear to be mild for most children, we do have students and staff with asthma who are at a higher risk and want to prevent any spread to grandparents or community members with preexisting conditions.



Travel Recommendations:

We encourage anyone traveling to take the ACHD's recommendation of checking the CDC's Traveler's Health Notices for the latest guidance and recommendations before planning your travel. This information can be accessed here: [CDC's Traveler's Health Notices \(https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html)

- In an abundance of caution, we ask that any families returning from countries in Asia or Europe stay home for 14 days after travel before returning to school.
- We request that families use best judgements to ensure that their child is healthy before returning to school if they have traveled within the US or other countries outside of Asia or Europe.
- *Please email all travel plans to Heart Prints* so that we are aware

School Programs:

As you may know, COVID-19 infections continue to spread across the country and world. The first diagnosed cases have now reached Pennsylvania. However, currently, there are no identified cases in Allegheny County.

More extreme steps are now being taken in public settings. The federal government has restricted travel, sports and entertainment events. We will continue to follow the direction provided by the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

At this time, Heart Prints will remain open with normal hours of operation.

We have unfortunately decided however to cancel our Herofest 2020. We will send out more detailed information about this specific events cancellation.

We know that there is a lot of information about the COVID-19 circulating in the media. We suggest the following resources as your primary source of information.

- [Center for Disease Control - Coronavirus Information](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html)
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- [Pennsylvania Department of Health - Coronavirus Information](https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx)
 - <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>
- [Allegheny County Health Department:](https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Resources/COVID-19/COVID-19.aspx)
 - <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Resources/COVID-19/COVID-19.aspx>

With kind regards,
Grace Byrnes & Julie Stanny