



March 12, 2020

Dear Families,

I know that the coronavirus is on everyone's minds right now. Schools are closing left and right, events and concerts are being postponed. Keeping in mind the health and safety of our children and staff, MLMS has decided to close starting **Monday, March 16th, until the end of Spring Break**. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be rescheduled. Spring Break camp is cancelled as well. We will be open tomorrow, Friday, March 13th with usual before care, after care and bus services.

We have come to this decision based on the fact that the coronavirus is mostly spread from person to person and we want to limit contact. Also, we will use this time for a deep clean of the classrooms. Many parents have spoken to me about feeling scared or worried for their little ones. In what I have read so far, children are not as severely affected as adults. If you are wondering how to talk to your child about the coronavirus, I found this article very helpful! [How to Talk to Kids](#)

No doubt this poses a disruption for some families' schedules. We are thinking of safety first. Luckily it was such a mild winter that we have only used up one of our ten snow days so far. We will use up another four of those days next week. We are fully expecting to open after Spring Break, but we have the extra days should things get worse rather than better throughout March.

If you are looking for more information on the coronavirus, I recommend checking out the World Health Organization's website <https://www.who.int/> or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website <https://www.cdc.gov/>. Both will give you suggestions on what you can do for your family, as well as up to date information on the spread of this virus.

We wish everyone and their families good health.

Sincerely,
Meg DeMato

Co-Director
Mountain Laurel Montessori School