



March 27, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

We hope that you and your loved ones are well.

Following up on Cathy Hall's video message from yesterday, we are writing to let you know that we will launch Virtual Nobles on Monday, April 6. For the past several weeks, faculty and staff have been working with all deliberate speed to prepare systems for online learning in the event of a prolonged shutdown. During the first week of spring break, we activated our Virtual Nobles Action Plan and have been working to get up to speed ever since. During the week of March 30, Nobles' faculty and staff will engage in training sessions and communication and curricula development, including connecting with our students, to begin to set up our online learning management systems.

Next week, while faculty and staff are preparing to open Virtual Nobles on April 6, we will be offering Nobles students an opportunity to reconnect through a series of intellectual, wellness and exercise programs. Please ask your student to look for an email from Kate Ramsdell on Monday, March 30 with information about next week's programs. Programs will run from Tuesday to Friday of next week.

In creating Virtual Nobles, we have endeavored:

- To uphold and advance our mission;
- To nurture our community and its members through our relationship-based pedagogy;
- To provide the best and most rigorous online education possible.

While there will be challenges and limits to what we will be able to do, it is essential for the well-being of our community that we stay connected in myriad ways, including not only classes, but also advisory, academic support, counseling, college counseling, afternoon programs and, when possible, some clubs and organizations. To learn more about Virtual Nobles, please read [Virtual Nobles: Information for Parents, Students and Guardians](#). We will be sending this to students, and we ask that you review this document with them no later than the week of March 30.

In addition to reading through the aforementioned information, we are requesting that all students download Zoom and Google Chrome by Friday, April 3. These tools will ensure that we can begin our virtual classes as smoothly as possible. Here are resources to assist students in this set up process:

1. [Video: How to Download and Set up Zoom](#)
2. [Video: How to Download and Set up Google Chrome](#)

We are grateful for the hard work, knowledge, earnest participation and dedication of so many faculty, staff, students, parents, guardians and trustees that will allow us to continue our work.

Please pace, take care of, and be patient with (and good to) yourself, and please let us know if there is anything we can be doing to support you and your student.

With warmest regards,  
John Gifford and Michael Denning