Dear Parents,

We continue to help make RCS a safe, loving, and enriching environment for your children. These are our current updated plans during this time to combat the spread of COVID-19:

*Screening and Admittance*

* Upon arrival staff will wash their hands and have their temperature taken.
* Children will have the standard RCS drop off in our front with the exception that the Fours will still continue to be dropped off in the back parking lot up until 9:05 am. Fours will, as always, be picked up in the back as well.
* Morning drop off will still begin at **8:45** am. ***Please move your car up to the end of the sidewalk.***
* All late arrivals (after 9:05 am/12:10 pm) must use the main front entrance.
* Upon arrival, the parent/guardian will take the child out of the car to the staff member.
* Children will have their temperature taken inside by staff in order to see that they do not have a temperature of 100.4 F or greater.
* Each day the staff will be asking the adult dropping off the child to confirm that the child does not have at least **two** of the following symptoms: fever, chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestions or runny nose OR at least **one** of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell or have been in close contact to anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
* Children will have their temperature taken inside by staff in order to see that they do not have a temperature of 100.4 F or greater; however the temperature will not be recorded. Parents whose child registers a temperature of 100.4 F or higher will be told verbally. A high fever would exclude the child from school.
* Staff members will continue to wear masks unless the class is outside and the temperature exceeds 80 degrees Fahrenheit.
* Children ARE required to wear masks. We are requesting lanyards to attach the masks on to promote sanitation and prevention of loss for the safety of the children.
* Children’s hands will be cleaned at arrival using our hand sanitizers (which contain at least 60 percent alcohol).

*Group Sizes and Social Distancing*

* We will continue to adhere to small group sizes in our classrooms and keep the same groups together (as much as possible) throughout the class time. With screening in place upon entering the building we believe this allows our students to play without having to worry about being too close to another student or teacher.
* Full Day Students will have lunch in their classroom.
* All students will have snacks in their classrooms.
* At this time Lunch Bunch/Brunch will not take place at RCS due to Covid regulations involving commingling cohorts.

*Activities*

* Field trips are no longer prohibited however we will continue to use social distancing to the greatest extent possible.
* Visitors to the school are still not permitted (with the exception of emergency or law enforcement personnel) due to the stringent guidelines. We will continue to work on *“creative”* ways to present our traditional activities to the children.
* We will attempt to have our Halloween Parades, Christmas Show Presentations, and Easter Egg Hunts. More information will be forthcoming.
* Children’s spare clothes, as usual at RCS, are to be stored in individual **Ziploc bags** in individual storage bins on our hallway shelves.
* Sharing of supplies, food, toys, and other high touch items (art supplies, school supplies, etc.) must be limited

*Promoting Healthy Hygiene Practices*

* RCS will reinforce washing hands for 20 seconds, as needed throughout the day, (before snack or lunch, after outside time, after bathroom use and using the sanitizer at dismissal).
* Children will be encouraged to use tissues and cover their coughs and sneezes with elbows.
* Children will have their own box of supplies for classroom use.

*Enhanced Cleaning and Sanitation Procedures*

* RCS shall continue the frequency of cleaning toys, equipment, and surfaces (playground equipment, door and sink handles, restroom countertops and tabletops) multiple times per day.
* Toys and items that are not easily cleaned or disinfected (e.g. stuffed animals or plush toys) shall not be used.
* Dress-up clothes still cannot be used right now.
* Toys that children have placed in their mouths or are contaminated shall be set aside until cleaned.

*Response Procedures of COVID-19 Symptoms or Exposure*

* Any confirmed or suspected exposure to COVID-19 occurring at RCS must be reported to Roxbury Department of Health and Division of Children and Families Office of Licensing.
* If a child or staff member develops symptoms of COVID-19 while at RCS (fever of 100.4 F or higher, cough, shortness of breath) he or she has to be immediately separated from the others until leaving RCS.
* If RCS becomes aware of a COVID-19 positive case at RCS, the Roxbury Health Department will be contacted for guidance.
* All rooms and equipment used by the infected person and persons potentially exposed to that person, will be cleaned and disinfected.
* If a staff member or child is directly exposed to someone who has COVID-19 he or she (who was exposed) has to quarantine at home for 14 days.
* Due to changing recommendations, these precautions may change at any time.

We want Redeemer Christian School to stay the happy, safe, and enriching school it has always been as we begin our 21st year. We pray for God’s guidance and we thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we start up a new year!

God Bless you all,

Cindy Stevens and the RCS Staff