

# Father Andrew White, SJ School

## Important Information for the 2nd Quarter

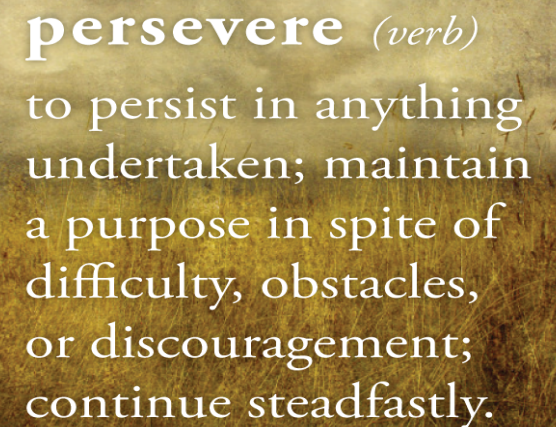
Dear FAW Family,

As the end of the first quarter is rapidly approaching, I want to provide you information on the plan moving forward as we continue to navigate an unconventional school year. Last week I asked families whose children began the year as distance learners to indicate their preferred learning option for the second quarter. While our ultimate goal is to have all students return for in-person instruction, we understand the need for some families to continue with the virtual platform.

In order to safely accommodate the new, total number of in-person students, changes will need to be made to a few of our classroom spaces. Any extra furniture in the rooms currently occupied by 4th, 5th, 6th & 8th grades, will be removed to provide space for up to 20 students while still adhering to the six feet physical distancing requirement. Similarly, the removal of all extraneous furniture in the current 2B classroom will enable the two second grade groups to be combined. This will help to alleviate the challenges of managing instruction for two in-person groups and distance learners simultaneously. Only minimal, if any, changes will be needed in the other grade levels. To allow time to execute these changes to the physical space, Thursday, October 29th will now be a virtual learning day for ALL students. No students will report to school for in-person instruction and no Google Meets will take place. All classwork for that day will be asynchronous, assigned either in SeeSaw or Google Classroom, or sent home with in-person learners on the previous day. On this day, students returning for in-person instruction will also have the opportunity to drop off textbooks, Chromebooks, supplies, etc. in advance of Monday, November 2nd, their first day for returning to in-person instruction. Friday, October 30th will remain a day off for students as originally scheduled.

Change is hard, and it has been especially difficult when compounded with the pandemic that we have and continue to experience. As a faith-filled people, we overcome the challenges of change by putting all our trust in God. We know he is always with us during our darkest hours and he carries us through the most treacherous storms. Despite the countless unknowns, all of the new routines, and the accompanying apprehension to begin the year, the FAW family has shown tremendous perseverance and has ultimately experienced great success. No matter the obstacles or difficulties that may come our way, the steadfast dedication of every member of this school family will enable us to continue to flourish during the second quarter and beyond.

With heartfelt gratitude,  
Ms. Heather Francisco



**persevere** *(verb)*  
to persist in anything  
undertaken; maintain  
a purpose in spite of  
difficulty, obstacles,  
or discouragement;  
continue steadfastly.