



January 15, 2021

Dear Hawthorn Parents, Teachers, Students, and Staff,

Today marks the end of our second successful week of virtual learning! We hope everyone at home is adjusting well as we grow in flexibility and resilience.

As you may be aware, this week the provincial government declared a second state of emergency effective January 12. As you will read in the attached letter from Toronto Public Health, this includes the issuance of a stay-at-home order. In addition, with respect to schools in southern Ontario, they announced that in-person learning can resume on February 10, 2021. This applies also to private and independent schools and as such, Hawthorn (with the exception of the Daycare which functions as usual) remains closed.

We continue to focus on synchronous learning and engaging with our students. Several adjustments were made this week in the Junior and Lower School, with respect to Google Classroom, to make it easier for younger students to connect. It seems to be working well for both teachers and students. We will continue to evaluate as we go along and make the necessary modifications to ensure the best experience for everyone. We are also working on strategies to help ensure the wellbeing of our students and staff; including planning different activities which help liven the mood and make this time more manageable.

Please do not hesitate to email us at administration@hawthornschool.com if you have any questions. As always we appreciate your feedback.

We hope to see you next week at the Bring Your Own Coffee session on Wednesday! This month's topic is "Each Child is Different". See the *What's New* for details and please feel free to invite others that may be interested. Until then, we wish everyone a good weekend and we hope that you will be able to take some time to disconnect from technology and reconnect with those in your household.

Warm regards,

Irian Flores de Medina
School Head