Dear Parents & Guardians,

Greetings on this beautiful Sunday! This is just the beginning of what looks like a week of more spring-like and warmer weather, in the midst of winter. Enjoy God’s amazing blessings in nature as we watch His plan unfolds. This week we will have temps in the 60s, but please do not put the coats away as yet. We still have two official weeks of winter to come. Below are the pertinent reminders and updates that I would like to bring to your attention for this week.

**Spring Week of Prayer:** This event takes place this week, March 8-12. We will be meeting via zoom every day at 11:00 a.m. The Zoom code is 706 769 0294. No passcode needed. You are invited to join us for this virtual spiritual experience. Mrs. Park and her Grade 6 students have planned, organized and will be the main presenters of the WOP, titled: “Son Harvest County Fair- Growing the Fruit of the Spirit.” Please pray for main participants, as well as the rest of the student body as all seek to be Spirit Led this week.

**Week of Prayer--Special Invitation to Community:** Please help us extend the invitation to our Week of Prayer to the wider community. Our team would like to seize this opportunity to share these virtual worship sessions with our community. We will be pleased to welcome your friends and family members including, but not limited to homeschool students, grandparents, neighbors, elderly, etc., to join us. Our prayer is that all who join our daily worship session will leave feeling blessed and with a smile on their faces.

**Outdoor Education:** This week, March 8-12, at 9:00 a.m. is outdoor education for fifth graders across the MI Conference. This is an annual event that the Grade 5 students look forward to with great excitement. They get to travel, with classmates, to Camp Au Sable for an amazing three-day outdoor learning experience. This is usually one of the highlights of the 5th grade year. This year, the pandemic has caused many changes, but we are all thankful that our leaders found a way to make Outdoor Education possible. Every day, this week, the students will meet for their remote learning nature experience with Dr. Atkins, the Outdoor Education facilitator and teacher.

**AA & RMES Side-by-Side Concert at HPAC, March 10:** Dr. Elsy Gallardo-Diaz has been working diligently with the Bands and Strings at AA and RMES for this event. This side-by-side performance with the AA Symphonic Band and Orion Strings, is intended to replace, at least in part, the Elementary Music Festival which was cancelled this year. Please keep Dr. Gallardo-Diaz and the students in your prayers and **Save the date, March 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** Currently, admission to the HPAC is restricted to family living in the same household as the student who is performing, as well as AA/RMES/AU current faculty, staff, and students. Others loved ones and supporters are invited to watch the livestream! More details coming soon.
**RMES Move-up & Visitors’ Day:** Due to the continued pandemic restrictions, we have changed the date of this event to April 6. In addition, we have decided not to have students move-up this year. Instead of having the students move-up to the next grade, as customary, the teachers will move down and/or up. Teachers will plan a special program for each grade to share with and answer questions of both, the in-person and online visitors. We will keep you informed as we continue to plan.

**COVID-19 Protocol Update:** We continue to have COVID-19 at the top of our list. Please continue to help us maintain our COVID-19 mitigation protocols as we are doing our best to be responsible in the implementation, but we cannot do it without your help. Reminders: 1. login to the daily Jupiter screening for students, before coming to school. 2. Students must wear their masks to school and keep an extra mask in their backpack or in the classroom. 3. Parents please wear a mask if you have to come out of your vehicle to drop-off or pick-up students. Thanks for your cooperation.

**Spring Break:** Spring Break is **March 22-26, 2021**. Thank you for your commitment to partner with us to maintain quality education and a safe and healthy learning environment. As we look ahead to the Spring Break, per BCHD and AU guidelines that due to the continued spread of the virus, students (and employees) are advised not to travel. In the event that you still choose to travel, upon your return your child will need to follow the guidelines below:

**COVID-19 Travel Protocol for RMES:**

- Get a COVID-19 test four days after you return from travel.
- Submit (email) negative report to RMES (rmes@andrews.edu or esavory@andrews.edu)
- **OR** quarantine for 10 days before returning to school (provided they have no COVID-19 symptoms or had close contact with or exposure to a person diagnosed with COVID-19).
- Obtain clearance from school administration or teacher before returning to school.
- Information on local testing sites can be found [here](#).

**General COVID-19 Protocol for RMES Students and Faculty/Staff:**

- Quarantine at home for 10-14 days if you tested positive for COVID-19
- Quarantine at home for 10-14 days if you have 2 or more COVID-19 symptoms and/or wait 4 days to be tested. Submit (email) negative report to RMES (rmes@andrews.edu or esavory@andrews.edu)
- Quarantine at home for 10-14 days if you had close contact with or exposure to a person diagnosed with COVID-19
- Obtain clearance from school administration or teacher before returning to school

- Please refer to the AU guidelines [here](#) and BCHD guidelines [here](#)

**Additional CDC Guidelines:**

In His service,

Evelyn P. Savory