

Black-March 16

Red-March 17, 18

Blue-March 19

Green-March 20, 21

Orange-March 22, 23, 24

E-Learning Day Questions & Answers

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.

--2 Timothy 1:7

- **Who ultimately decides on school closures for Catholic schools within the Diocese of Peoria?**
 - While the Diocese of Peoria/Office of Catholic Schools and ISBE share a solid working relationship, we are a Catholic school and will abide by the Diocese of Peoria/Office of Catholic Schools directives.

- **How will the Diocese of Peoria/Office of Catholic Schools and St. Malachy School proceed with E-Learning?**
 - Regardless of what is decided by ISBE for remote instruction, it is the expectation of OCS that diocesan schools will be instructing students via e-learning.
 - To the best of our ability, St. Malachy School will make every effort to provide quality E-Learning instruction to further our students' education.

- **What are the timelines for return to school?**
 - Per the Bishop of Peoria, all diocesan elementary and secondary schools will have extended e-learning, and buildings will remain closed through Easter Monday, April 13th in observance of Holy Week, the Triduum, and Easter Sunday and Easter Monday.
 - Further instructions regarding extended closure or a return to school on Tuesday, April 14th, will be shared as we receive ongoing updates.
 - Although schools across Illinois are currently scheduled to re-open on March 31, the closure period will likely be extended beyond that date. The Office of Catholic Schools (Diocese of Peoria) will provide further guidance as it becomes available.
 - Governor Pritzker announced a shelter-in-place order for all of Illinois and an extended school closure through April 7th.
 - Next week, ISBE will issue guidance regarding March 31 and beyond.

- ISBE contemplates that districts eventually will transition to Remote Instructional Days. ISBE has assembled an advisory group composed of teachers, administrators, and stakeholders to make recommendations about what Remote Instructional Days could look like. This advisory group will explore what is possible and what is reasonable under these unprecedented circumstances, always recognizing the incredible diversity and varying capacity of our 852 school districts.
- **Will Grab and Go meal distributions still be available?**
 - Yes, click [here](#) for more information. They will be offered Mondays and Wednesdays only beginning March 23.
- **Can my family access free internet resources?**
 - Yes, please visit www.isbe.net/keeplearning for more information. AT&T, Spectrum Free Broadband, and Comcast are offering free internet access to Illinois families to support learning during the school closures.
- **How does my student log in to their St. Malachy Account?**
 - Go to [Google Account Sign In](#) page
 - Enter student username: last name + first initial of first name, all lowercase
 - Some students have the same last name and first initial of their first name as a sibling or cousin, so their username may be last name + entire first name, all lowercase
 - Click next to be prompted to enter your password
 - Password is student (full) first name + 4 digit lunch pin, all lowercase
 - If your student is unsure of their lunch pin, please email [Mrs. Francque](#) or [Mrs. Wilson](#)
- **I have a school issued Chromebook, how does my child log in?**
 - Please log in as soon as possible so that your family has familiarized themselves with the Chromebook prior to resuming E-Learning on March 30.
 - Kindergarten families who received a school issued Chromebook will receive an email from Mrs. Wilson when accounts have been activated
 - Chromebooks should automatically open to the Sign In screen when opened/powered on.
 - Click on the blue link to “Sign in with a different account”
 - Enter student username: last name + first initial of first name, all lowercase

- Some students have the same last name and first initial of their first name as a sibling or cousin, so their username may be last name + entire first name, all lowercase
 - The domain @stmalgeneseo.org is already autofilled when prompted to enter your username
 - Click next to be prompted to enter your password
 - Password is student (full) first name + 4 digit lunch pin, all lowercase
 - If your student is unsure of their lunch pin, please email [Mrs. Francque](mailto:Mrs.Francque) or [Mrs. Wilson](mailto:Mrs.Wilson)
 - If you have any additional questions related to school-issued Chromebooks not addressed in this document, please contact Mrs. Francque or Mrs. Wilson.
- **How do I care for a school issued Chromebook?**
 - You may use disinfectant wipes along the keyboard, trackpad, and the outside.
 - However, please do not use disinfectant wipes, glass cleaner, etc. on the screen; please only use screen cleaner.
 - Do not spray screen cleaner directly onto the screen; spray onto a clean cloth and gently wipe the screen.
 - Please do not eat or drink near the Chromebook.
- **Can students utilize school grounds (i.e. playgrounds, basketball courts) during the statewide mandated school closure?**
 - It may be difficult to keep children from visiting the playground during periods of school closure; however, due to health concerns, St. Malachy School discourages large gatherings of children on their playgrounds, basketball courts, etc.
- **Where can I access Special Education policy guidance as it applies to the mandatory closure?**
 - <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/School-Closure-SpED-Guidance.pdf>
 - Please contact Mrs. Francque with questions.
- **What is E-Learning?**
 - Diocesan Policy E-111 (Calendar Policy)
 - In the event of an emergency closing due to weather (or other emergency approved by the Superintendent), schools have the option of providing an

E-learning day(s) where student instruction is delivered electronically rather than making up the day later in the academic year.

- **When and where will E-Learning lessons be available?**
 - E-Learning plans will be posted on the school website under the Family Resources tab beginning Wednesday, March 18th at 8 a.m.
 - Teachers will continue to add new slides to their E-Learning plans to assign daily work. These slides will include the date.
 - The most recent assignments will appear first within each E-Learning plan.
 - Slides will not be removed and will continue to be available for reference.
 - Specials teachers' E-Learning plans are linked directly through each grade level daily schedule
 - Contact Special teachers directly for questions about their lessons and assignments

- **Will the school take attendance?**
 - No, not at this time. We do not take attendance for Act of God Days (March 16-30).
 - We may, however, take attendance for Instructional E-Learning Days (beyond March 30) if the need arises.

- **How long is the statewide mandatory closure?**
 - The statewide mandatory school closure begins March 17 and extends through at least March 30. All of the days during this initial closure March 17-30 will be considered Act of God Days and will not be made up. Student work during this time will not be graded, as these days are not Instructional Days.
 - Per Executive Order 2020-05, there is no limit being placed on required days of E learning and the 300 minutes of instruction per day due to the pandemic at this point in time.
 - Although there can be no grades for Acts of God days since they are not instructional days, at some point ISBE will say that we are to use E Learning days for instruction and count them, which in turn, means they will be graded. It all depends on how long the coronavirus keeps us from returning to school.
 - ISBE has provided clarification. Any instruction provided during this mandated closure (March 17-30) can be graded with the stipulation that the grading cannot negatively impact the student's academic standing.
 - St. Malachy School, however, will not grade student work during the Act of God days (March 17-March 30).

- **Will student work be graded?**
 - The statewide mandatory school closure begins March 17 and extends through at least March 30. All of the days during this initial closure March 17-30 will be considered Act of God Days and will not be made up. Student work during this time will not be graded, as these days are not

Instructional Days.

- Although there can be no grades for Acts of God days since they are not instructional days, at some point ISBE will say that we are to use E Learning days for instruction and count them, which in turn, means they will be graded. It all depends on how long the coronavirus keeps us from returning to school.
- **ISBE has provided clarification. Any instruction provided during this mandated closure (March 17-30) can be graded with the stipulation that the grading cannot negatively impact the student's academic standing.**
 - **St. Malachy School, however, will not grade student work during the Act of God days (March 17-March 30).**
- **Will there be E-Learning assignments during Spring Break?**
 - No, students are not required to complete E-Learning from March 23rd-27th.
 - Teachers will not be available during Spring Break.
- **Where will I find my child's E-Learning assignments?**
 - Each classroom teacher and special teacher's E-Learning Plan will be posted online at the www.saintmalachy.org school website under Family Resources as a (live) Google slide.
- **When will lessons be updated?**
 - Each grade level and special teacher will update their E-Learning plan by 8 a.m. every morning with daily lessons. Special teachers will update on their scheduled special days, which are noted on teacher calendars.
 - **Teachers will add new slides with daily assignments; however, they will not delete previous days' slides.**
 - **Families have the flexibility to work on E-Learning plans on the days that work best for them.**
- **If a parent has a question regarding an E-Learning plan lesson, who should they contact?**
 - The classroom teacher or special teacher Monday-Friday from 8:00-3:00 on E-Learning days
- **How and when should a parent contact teachers?**
 - Teachers will be available between 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Monday-Friday through their work email. However, their response may not be immediate.
- **What if a family is unable to participate in E-Learning Days because they do not have or have limited internet access?**
 - Lessons can be accessed through a smartphone or tablet.
 - Lessons may be modified to fit your family's personal needs. For example, if you do not have internet access or limited access, you may use traditional math flashcards to practice math facts.

- Please contact the principal if assistance is needed in regard to internet access or to inquire about securing additional devices if this is a financial hardship for your family.
- **How much time should a student spend on a lesson?**
 - The amount of minutes per student and family will vary. We emphasize quality over quantity.
 - Students are able to work on their assignments when it makes sense for your family. We understand students may have additional responsibilities around the house.
 - Complete the assignment to the best of your ability. Families have flexibility within their schedule. In turn, please also allow flexibility for the classroom teachers.
- **What is the teacher's responsibility during the E-Learning experience?**
 - Provide daily updated lessons.
 - Be available via email from 8:00-3:00 with flexibility.
- **What is the student's responsibility during the E-Learning experience?**
 - Check the E-learning plan daily.
 - Complete lessons to the best of their ability.
 - If a student is having difficulty, it is his or her responsibility to reach out to the classroom teacher
- **What is the parents' responsibility during the E-Learning experience?**
 - We are asking parents to facilitate the learning experience, but we do not expect parents to assume the teacher role. We understand these are unique and trying times.
 - **Because we are continually updating the FAQ's based on parent feedback, parents should continue to refer to the E-Learning FAQ's if and when they have questions**
 - **Anyone wishing for a paper copy of the E-Learning plans should take a screenshot of the desired slides and print. Keep in mind these are live, continually updated plans that may change daily.**
- **How can my child access Google Classroom?**
 - See [Google Classroom Step-by-Step](#).
 - If your child is unsure of their school email address (username) or password (first name + lunch pin) please email [Mrs. Wilson](#)

If you have general questions, comments regarding E-Learning, or if you need assistance, please contact [Mrs. Francque](#). Example: internet access or device issues,

general questions or concerns with E-Learning as it relates to your family and/or financial distress related to E-Learning.

Here is a list of the principal's, classroom and special teachers' email addresses:

Heather Francque, Principal	hfrancque@stmalgeneseo.org
Bev Goethals, Kindergarten	bgoethals@stmalgeneseo.org
Carol Roemer, First Grade	croemer@stmalgeneseo.org
Jessi Haars, Second Grade	jhaars@stmalgeneseo.org
Devon Schaaf, Third Grade	dschaaf@stmalgeneseo.org
Carrie Schlindwein, Fourth Grade	cschlindwein@stmalgeneseo.org
Ellen Nelson, Fifth Grade	enelson@stmalgeneseo.org
Janel Vandemore, Sixth Grade	jvandemore@stmalgeneseo.org
Mary Heiar, Art	mheiar@stmalgeneseo.org
Elizabeth Hulsbrink, Music	ehulsbrink@stmalgeneseo.org
Styphanie Palmer, Library & P.E.	spalmer@stmalgeneseo.org
Kristin Wilson, Computer & Spanish	kwilson@stmalgeneseo.org