

Dear Country Day Families,

In five school days, we will complete the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year. In August when we convened for school, no one would have imagined we'd be in session for one quarter, much less two. It took a collective effort and shared sacrifice, and for that, we are deeply grateful. Your choices have allowed us to stay healthy and to remain open for in-person learning, while other schools were compelled to shift to online. Yes, there were challenging times, particularly for families whose students were required to quarantine, but our overall case rate stayed low and intraschool spread of the virus was negligible, if at all. With consistent and continual adherence to our safety protocols, our prospects for keeping learning on campus in 2021 are strong.

To reiterate the protocols emphasized before Thanksgiving break, students must quarantine for 10 days before they may return to campus if they:

- attend a [gathering with 10 or more people](#) (beyond members of their respective households) or
- travel to a country or [state with a high positivity rate](#).

### Quarantining Requirement during Testing

As a reminder, **students and staff must stay home when anyone in their household is tested** regardless of the reason (e.g., symptoms, close contact, and an organization's screening requirement). When your child or someone in your house is tested for Covid, inform your child's respective division head or email [covid19safety@countryday.net](mailto:covid19safety@countryday.net). We need to be aware of quarantine periods, even during the break, since some quarantines may extend into the start of the second semester. Also, if your child is tested and receives a positive result, [please submit test details using this form](#). Student case data will help us gauge the health of our community and help determine whether we are in a position to safely reopen on January 4 as expected.

### Winter Break Family Survey

To assess the possibility of a post-holiday case surge that could affect our plan to return to campus on January 4, we want to get a sense of our community's plans (e.g., travel, attendance at gatherings) during our two-week break. [Please click here to take an anonymous survey](#) by Tuesday, Dec. 15.

Before we close on Friday, Dec. 18, we will reconfirm our intent to re-open for in-person instruction, but please bear in mind that evolving data and local conditions could alter these plans during the break. If our re-opening plans change, we will notify you immediately. Per our practice, all decisions regarding closures or a shift to remote learning will be made on a division-by-division basis.

Thank you again for your role in keeping us open for teaching and learning. The benefits of in-person instruction are indisputable, and our students deserve nothing less than the best instructional opportunity we can provide.

Sincerely,

Tony T.T. Jaccaci  
Head of School

Dennis Coyle, Jackie Fiora, Theresa Hirschauer,  
Tina Moulin, Ashley Ward, CCDS Rapid Response Team



**CHALLENGE YOURSELF. BE YOURSELF.**

#WeAreCountryDay