



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

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MR. MICHAEL J. DEEGAN, SUPERINTENDENT

May 15, 2020

Dear Catholic School Families,

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti! Christ is Risen! He is Truly Risen! This greeting takes on new meaning during these challenging times, recognizing that we will overcome the shadow that has been cast as of late!

During this time, so many of you have been joining our principals and teachers in finding creative ways to engage your child in our faith and provide new opportunities for your children's academic growth. It has been truly inspiring, and we are grateful for your choice of Catholic Education for your child.

I am writing today about a FREE Extended Year Learning Program we are offering this summer. This is a summer school experience, designed around programs offered in the past, **that blends math, literacy, and STEM instruction.** Originally, this program was planned as an in-person program. However, after closely considering how to provide the best academic support while prioritizing the safety of all staff and students, **the Health & Safety Task Force of the Superintendent of Schools Office has determined all summer programming will be a home-based learning experience.**

Although we will be disappointed not to see your children's smiling faces in-person this summer, we are very excited about the program we *can* offer. Each student will receive three hours of teacher-directed daily instruction, either in a **morning or afternoon session.** These sessions will be led by highly qualified teachers many of whom come from our Catholic Schools themselves.

Instruction will integrate socioemotional learning, enrichment, and movement in collaboration with the daily academic block. Students who attended regularly last summer returned to our schools with higher math scores than their peers as validated by a recent research university study (and reading scores were not far behind). We were successful in combating "Summer Slide." Read about it by clicking [here](#).

Included in this year's virtual summer program is a counseling component for all students. In light of the challenges 2020 has posed, every student group will have a weekly counseling workshop on topics such as Transitioning to Middle School or Maintaining Long Distance Friendships. For those who wish to participate, a weekly family workshop will make sure engagement extends beyond the computer.

Participating students will receive all the materials they need to participate and thrive in the program, including workbooks, notebooks, writing utensils, and other important supplies. If you have any questions or would like support in registering, please email your school principal, or email summernyc@catapultlearning.com.

Excelsior,

Michael J. Coppotelli
Associate Superintendent of Schools
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