



April 17, 2020

Notes from Ojai Valley School

Dear OVS Families,

As we wrap up our first week back after Spring Break, we want to thank you for responding to the recent surveys. Based on your feedback, we continue to make adjustments by academic division to our online distance learning. At the same time, we are exploring other options to ensure the memorable traditions and events of the school year can still take place in some form. More information will be forthcoming.

We had some fun creating videos this week. Dr. Everest Mueller created a mindfulness exercise for the elementary students that we will be using in classes next week. If you feel the need to [be calm like still water](#), tune in.

Be sure to [catch the video](#) of Mr. Floyd reading his favorite Dr. Seuss story to our youngest students as part of a virtual storytelling project initiated by our campus librarians, Ashlee Nishiya and Devyn Reynolds, as well as our high school students involved in the storytelling elective.

Enjoy the [Remote All School #4](#). This week, Mr. Mahon works from his backyard fort, we take another bike tour to visit our students while adhering to social distancing rules, and our kindergartners share their favorite aspects of distance learning.

Finally, [enjoy a story](#) by Adam Pepper-Macias (L17) on the student journalism website On The Hill about how the OVS Student Council and other Upper Campus students have begun hosting online trivia games, online drawing competitions, and other activities to brighten spirits and heighten their sense of community.

It's what we are all trying to do during this challenging time, and we hope it brings a smile under your face masks.

As always, feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. Have a great weekend.

Craig Floyd,
Head of School, Upper Campus

Gary Gartrell,
Head of School, Lower Campus

VIRTUAL ALL-SCHOOL

This week, Mr. Mahon builds a fort, the faculty hide from Mr. Gartrell, Ms. Woll teaches us about perseverance, and much more! Follow the link below.

[VIEW VIDEO](#)

Ojai Valley School

Remote All School #4

A GOOD READ

Sitting in a wooden chair, he turns the pages of a Dr. Seuss picture book filled with rhymes, imagination, and creativity. Passion and reminiscence permeate his voice as he examines the inventive fishes and characters that are depicted in *McElligot's Pool*, the book Head of School Craig Floyd's grandmother read to him when he was a child. Welcome to the newest version of the Upper Campus Storytelling Elective, which has now gone virtual. [Click here](#) to read more in a story by senior Olivia Brown (L16).



MINDFULNESS EXERCISES

Everest Mueller, PhD. continues his series of mindfulness videos to provide strategies for managing anxiety during the pandemic. Everest is an accomplished educator who lives in Ojai. His most recent activity, designed for elementary students, is called the Mindful Body - Calm Water. Activities for middle and high school students will be added next week. Please enjoy.

[VIEW VIDEO](#)



PAINTING A PANDEMIC

When Senior Angela Qu chose the focus of her AP art portfolio, the beauty of infectious diseases under the microscope, there was no way she could have known that six months later it would become a global topic. Angela spent her entire senior year in AP Studio Art dedicated entirely to a single portfolio that she

will submit to the College Board in May for evaluation by highly experienced studio art educators. [Click here](#) to read more in a story by senior Aaron Wolf (L16).

