



Marymount Paris

30 October 2020

Dear Marymount Parents,

As we prepare to reopen the school gates for our students on Monday 2 November, I write to wish you and your children a healthy and safe return back to Marymount.

It is fitting that the beginning of the second half of our term will begin with our School Mass. As proof of our commitment to demonstrating the value of adaptability, our Mass will be held via Zoom and diffused in our Elementary and Middle School classrooms. The adaptability required by the year 2020 is made easier when we can rely on the solidarity of our community. I'd like to extend my personal thanks to Fr Aidan Troy and to the RSHM Sisters whose companionship has been immeasurably supportive this year.

While we are delighted to welcome our students back on Monday, we recognize that their childhoods are being shaped by unprecedented and unsettling times. We are committed to providing our Marymount students with the safety, security and sense of consistency and continuity to support their well being. It is also incumbent upon us to prepare our students for the challenges that lie outside our school gates. Solace is found in our faith and shared values, strength is reinforced in our community partnership with parents, and the fire of inspiration is reignited when our students are guided by their teachers to learn and seek knowledge.

On Wednesday evening, President Macron outlined the government's directives for the next four weeks. Marymount has followed heightened procedures since our successful re-opening in Spring 2020, and much of what you will read in our updates will be a continuation of those measures. There are a few expanded requirements to ensure that we continuously prioritize the health and safety of our Marymount community as we adapt to the evolution of Covid-19 in France.


These updated health and safety measures are set in the context of the recent escalation to a higher Vigipirate status. We remain in regular contact with the Regional Security Office of the US Embassy and the Neuilly police. We are grateful for their partnership and reinforced oversight, and our security team has been briefed accordingly. To support us in this effort, we ask that parents please do not linger at arrivals or dismissals so that the area in front of the school is cleared as quickly as possible.

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Should our school be required to move to a remote learning model at any stage throughout the year, you are welcome to read the [Remote Learning Handbook](#) - approved by the Education Committee of our Board of Trustees - to give you an overview of the principles and practices of ensuring that quality learning continues despite the potential challenges ahead.

Our [November 2020 updated plan](#) is available on the Marymount App and [website](#). We will progressively share updates as the school year evolves and look forward to engaging in open, honest and respectful dialogue with the parent community as we navigate the future together. If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please email me: head@marymount.fr.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Thomas'.

Sarah Thomas
Acting Head of School