

Friday, May 8, 2020,

Dear Ark Families,

It is with heavy hearts that we are writing this message. **The Ark Children's Center will remain closed for the rest of the 2019-2020 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.** Given the current status of the virus and the State Superintendent's recent announcement to close all state schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 year, we feel it is the right decision.

We realize this closure impacts our families on so many levels. ARK leadership is closely monitoring the status of the pandemic to determine the most appropriate way for staff to close out the school year with their students. Any decisions made will be communicated by Susan Borst, Director to parents through the weekly message, through the Shutterfly Sites, and The ARK's- Stay Connected Page on the oakdale.church website. Please continue to stay connected to those communications (and one another) throughout the month of May.

Tuition reimbursements have already been made for March (two weeks) and April. Another partial refund check will be issued for the first installment paid at the time of registration. **If you wish this reimbursement to be donated to The Ark Children's Center, a non-profit 501c3 organization, we are happy to honor your request and will send a letter of donation for tax purposes. Please contact our bookkeeper, Churchill Groves at cgroves@oakdale.church to make your request.** We appreciate your consideration of a tax-deductible donation.

The ARK Board and capable leadership is committed to making sure our mission is strong and can flourish in the days ahead. We are currently discussing contingency plans for next school year and are excited about the many creative possibilities to meet your child's developmental and social-emotional needs. We commend the ARK Leadership and Staff for their efforts to communicate with parents, reach toward children during school closures, and for the wonderful variety of videos and resources provided to our community during the past 6 weeks when tuitions were waived.

We continue to pray for your health and safety in the months ahead. May God continue to bless you and hold you near.

Sincerely,
The Ark Children's Center Board of Directors

"...with God, all things are possible" -Matthew 19:26