

Dear Parents and Guardians of Students in Grades 7 - 12,

As teachers, we want to do our part in helping parents fulfill your role within the ecosystem of Christian formation. This involves keeping parents informed of school wide news and events that are happening within our classrooms. Over the years, we have been moving toward using less paper. This year, we want to see if we can create a more unified approach in some of the electronic communication that takes place between our classrooms and your homes.

School Wide Events and News: The students have opportunity to receive the **Homeroom Announcements** via their cell phones and [Homerooms](#) posted on our website. The Homerooms inform the students of daily activities, opportunities, and upcoming events. The office releases the **Charger News** electronically on Wednesday via emails you have provided to us when you registered your children. You can also find back issues of the **Charger News** on our website at www.shorelinechristian.org.

Classroom News and Events: For the past few years, students and teachers in our older grades have been using Google Apps For Education (GAPE). Within their suite of applications is Google Classroom that we use as a hub for announcements, making /collecting assignments, and distributing some class materials. In August, Google finally released an update that allows us to invite parents and guardians into our Google Classroom. While parents in grades 7 – 12 can still see grades and missing work via [Parents Web](#), Google Classroom allows parents to see upcoming assignments and due dates. We feel this will do a better job of inviting parents and guardians to assist in planning how a child uses their time. For more information about Google Classroom and your options, please take a look at [Google Classroom](#).

Next Steps: This is a new product, so we anticipate a bit of a learning curve for everyone involved. A few things as we get started:

- All of our students in grades 7 – 12 have been given a login to Google Classroom account that consists of the first three letters of their last name followed by the first three letters of their first name @shorelinechristian.org. So John Smith would look like smijoh@shorelinechristian.org. Please note, for the safety of our students and so that parents have control over electronic communication their child uses, this is **not** an active email account.
- Teachers are creating their classes and inviting students to be in their class(es).
- **Parents in Grades 7 – 12**—The teachers will be working with the students to accept invitations for their class(es).
- Once the invitation has been accepted, the teachers can invite parents and guardians to the class. They will be using the email(s) you provided to us when you registered your child(ren).
- You can chose to accept the invitation and decide how frequently you wish to receive updates from your child's class(es). Parents of children in grades 7 – 12, we understand you will be receiving one email with a summary of all the classes your child is attending. It is up to you if you want them daily or weekly.
- The email summary is only a system for notification. Accessing the files or readings requires the user be logged into the account.

Please note, this is a test. If it works, we will continue to develop the information stream. If not, we will find a better system. Mr. Visser will be available to help parents and guardians during Back to School Nights on September 22 for grades 7 – 12.