Students, families adapt to new normal after school closes on March 12 in midst of global pandemic

Hannah Khairandish | EIC

STAY TO PLAY
Completing an at-home orchestra assignment, senior Noah Czelusta teaches a family member how to play his cello. His sister, sophomore Sophie Czelusta, caught on quickly because she already played the viola. “We had fun,” Czelusta said. “It helped eliminate the boredom and monotony of quarantine.” Photo courtesy of Noah Czelusta.

NO WAIT
Making the most of his Spring Break, freshman Oliver Grossman travels with his family to Incline Village, Nevada. Grossman and his family went ahead with their travel plans to go skiing in Nevada. “The crazy part was that the airport was nearly empty even though it was the middle of the day,” Grossman said. “On the way back, there were 33 people on our flight.”

HELPING HANDS
At the Kids’ Meals warehouse in Houston, senior Ellie Zarr helps pack lunches for 7,000 area children. Zarr used some of her time away from school to help others. “The number of hungry kids in Houston increased significantly, as they did not have access to school meals,” Zarr said. “It was heartwarming to see the kids’ faces light up when we delivered to them.”

Photo courtesy of Ellie Zarr.

03/11 RODEO CLOSED
“I was at the rodeo when they made the announcement, and everyone was scrambling to leave. All I could think about was the money and opportunities I was losing. After a while, I was amazed at how big it all got, and I realized that the rodeo being canceled was just a small part.”

Emily Goertz | 12

03/11 BAND TRIP TO FLORIDA
“I sent this picture to my mom because she was very concerned about everyone staying safe. I wasn’t very nervous because there were not many confirmed cases at the time. Once we were all home and safe, I was very glad that I was able to go on the trip with a lot of my friends.”

Rebecca Lorentzatos | 9

03/13-22 SPRING BREAK
“Corona almost ruined our trip, but we didn’t let it stop us. Olivia Gore and I went to Oaxaca, Mexico, mainly to see my cousin’s wedding.”

Alexa Herrera | 12

03/12 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
“Kyle [Nguyen] asked me to prom that night. I’d heard about school being canceled before that. I wasn’t that upset because it was Spring Break anyway, until my trip to Mexico got canceled. I wasn’t that upset about prom being canceled since we have so many other dances, but I missed my friends and all the senior traditions we missed out on.”

Emily Goertz | 12
Students share what they miss most about their lives after staying home for weeks on end

**GAME ON**
Passing time, senior Hunter Canales spends the majority of his day gaming. Canales often played “Call of Duty: Modern Warfare” or “GTA 5” online with several of his friends. “Gaming was a great way to stay in touch and connect with people,” Canales said. Photo courtesy of Hunter Canales.

**SPARE A SQUARE?**
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**03/30 ONLINE SCHOOL STARTS**
“I was on Lake Conroe and Zooming with Mrs. Iler. I was okay with online schooling. I was able to do whatever, whenever, like go fishing, and was able to stay away from people.”
Nick Kroger | 12

**03/18 STOCK MARKET CRASH**
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“Although I wasn’t really expecting to go back, it still hit me hard when they officially announced it. I really took for granted seeing my teachers and friends every day. As a senior, school was actually fun this year. I was the most upset about missing prom.”
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