



KidMail

January 4, 2024

Dear MGC Family,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a safe and blessed holiday. It is wonderful to see the children back and ready to learn.

With a new year comes new opportunities and can bring big changes. I wanted to inform you of a couple important staff updates as we go into the new year.

We regret to report that Mr. Mark Schuh, our music teacher, has decided to move on from teaching. Mrs. Sarah Talley, who formerly taught 3rd grade, will now take that position. We are delighted to welcome Ms. Kendra Ditmar. Ms. Ditmar will be taking over as the third grade teacher. Mrs. Paula Payne has decided to move on from MGC. We wish her the best of luck in her new endeavors. We are currently looking to fill her position. If you have questions or concerns regarding the Extended Care Program please contact me or Ms. Kristine Wolf (wolf@mgcparish.org).

Quite a few families received letters regarding attendance and tardies. However, I am still seeing a lot of tardies and unexcused absences. Please know that as we begin to prepare for enrollment for the 24-25 school year, attendance in excess of 10 days can result in the following: denied enrollment for 24-25 school year, and a report submitted to the Department of Instruction for the State of Wisconsin as well as to the Milwaukee Parental Choice program. Furthermore, consequences of excessive absences can also result in grade retention. In order for children to thrive, students are expected to be here daily and on time. I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

As always, if you have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (414) 442-7600 extension 119 or at johnston@mgcparish.org

In Faith,
Rachel Johnston
Principal

Dates of Importance

Jan. 5 Spirit Wear Day – show your MGC spirit by wearing spirit wear top and uniform bottoms
Jan. 12 Warm & Cozy Day – wear flannel, fleece, or sweats, NO pjs
Jan. 15 MLK Jr. Day – No school
Jan. 17 Wear Be Kind shirt and uniform bottoms
Jan. 28-Feb 3 Catholic Schools Week



January Menus

Here is a link for the menus for January

<https://uploads.weconnect.com/mce/e411a490148911bb6ee16beaa6f794a437b3bc9d/LunchMenu/23-24/January%202024%20Menus.pdf>

Lost and Found



Have you lost a hat, lunch box, or even a coat? Check out the table outside of the office for many items that were lost and now are found.

MGC Basketball

The basketball season is in full swing. This weekend all teams are playing at MGC! Check out the schedules online here <https://www.mgcparish.org/basketball>. Admission prices are as follows: Adults - \$3, students - \$2, Seniors and MGC students - \$1, children under 2 – free. Show your team spirit and support our teams by wearing your spirit wear tops on Friday, January 5. GO MaGiC!

COVID/FLU/RSV Season

As we move forward into the winter season, we also prepare for upticks in COVID and Flu. Multiple news sources have reported that lung infections and RSV are quickly on the rise causing children to be quite ill. As we strive to remain safe and healthy, here a few important MGC protocols and policies to review:

- Students who are sent home sick with vomiting or fever are not to return to school for 24 hours and symptoms have subsided
- If your child has been exposed to COVID, we ask that you test as soon as possible.
 - A. If your child has been exposed, but tests negative for COVID, we asked that they mask for 5 days
 - B. If your child has tested positive for COVID, please report to the school. The student is to be out of school for 5 days. Student may return after 5 days if symptom free, and is required to wear a mask for 5 days

Your compliance and cooperation is greatly appreciated. It takes all of our efforts to mitigate these viruses that can seriously affect student and staff attendance compelling us to deliver instruction virtually. We can all agree that being physically in school, learning and being part of the community is our collective goal and responsibility. You are encouraged to keep up with COVID and FLU vaccines/boosters, and to use testing as a resource when you have knowingly been exposed to COVID or are experiencing symptoms. Let's pray for a calm season.

RESOURCES:

[Health Department](#)

[CDC/RSV information](#)

DentaMed



DentaMed's licensed dental providers will be offering **free** cleanings and fluoride treatments to our students will be rescheduled. **We are waiting for a new date. There is still time to sign up.** We ask that parents complete a consent to treat or waiver of treatment for each child. Paper copies were sent home or contact the school office.

It's Cold Outside – and it will get even colder!

Please remember that we do take the children outside for recess during winter. If the temperature/wind chill is at or above zero, we go outside. It is important that every MGC student come to school every day prepared for recess. This includes a winter coat, hat, mittens/gloves, scarves, snowpants, and boots. Children who do not have snow pants and boots are not allowed to play in the snow. Please do not put your child in that situation!



Be Kind T-Shirts



You don't want to miss this opportunity to be seen wearing our "theme" t-shirt on our Be Kind Days (third Wednesday of the month). Shirts are available in two colors and both long sleeve and short sleeve. Use code **MGCPICKUP** and orders will be sent to school at no cost.

Here is a link where you can purchase these t-shirts.

<https://www.shopjaynas.com/products/be-kind-mgc-t-shirts>

There are some Be Kind T-Shirts for sale in the school office. Contact Mrs. Berthold for size info.

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for people to join the following committees: **School Committee, Athletic Board and Home & School Association.** It's a great way to make a difference! If interested, please contact me at johnston@mgpcarish.org, or contact the school secretary Mrs. Barb Berthold at (414) 442-7600 extension 118.



Like us on Facebook and Instagram



We hope you will "like and follow" us on Facebook! We post MGC School news, pictures, updates and more on the page so be sure to "follow" us.
<https://www.facebook.com/MGCMilwaukeeWI>

On Instagram we are @mgpcarish

Birthday Club

Celebrate your child's birthday the MGC way! For \$20.00 you get all that is in the picture and their name on the sign outside the school.

https://uploads.weconnect.com/mce/e411a490148911bb6ee16beaa6f794a437b3bc9d/School/MKE%20Fall%20Science%20Party%20FLYER_22.pdf

Weather Regulations



When there is a question of whether the school will be opening for the day because of extreme weather conditions, Archdiocesan regulations require that the school follow the Milwaukee Public School system. **The decision not to open is usually made before 6:00 AM on the day in question and is announced on local radio and TV stations. If the announcement is made that MPS schools are closed due to inclement weather, MGC will also be**

closed.

Whenever the school is closed due to inclement weather, ECP and the parish offices are also closed. However, if MPS is not in session, or for some reason fails to close, an independent decision will be made for MGC. This decision will be made by Mrs. Johnston and Fr. Reed. The announcement will be made on local television and radio stations. Additionally, if MGC closes independently of MPS, an e-mail and text will be sent and local TV/radio stations will be informed.

MGC will not close early due to inclement weather. However, parents are welcome to come to school and pick up their children if they deem that to be in their family's best interest.

If MPS closes early or fails to open due to staffing concerns, that will not affect MGC.

MGC's Website

Have you checked-out MGC's website (www.mgcparish.org)? If not, please do so. You'll find a great deal of information about our church and school. The hot lunch menu is posted there so you don't have to worry about losing yours. Current and past editions of KidMail are also posted there. There are also many great student resources available through the library page. Don't miss this great resource!



MGC School Calendar 2023-2024

ALL students are expected to arrive on time and to be picked up on time.
Students may start arriving at 7:35 AM



- 5 – Spirit Wear Day – uniform bottoms
- 9 - School Committee Meeting
- 12 - Warm and Cozy Day, wear flannel, fleece, or sweats no pjs.
- 15 - MLK Day No school
- 17 - Wear Be Kind shirt and uniform bottoms
- 28 – Feb 3 - Catholic Schools Week

Full calendar may be found on the School News page
<https://www.mgcparrish.org/school-news>

Parents/guardians are encouraged to check KidMail each Wednesday for regular updates.

MGC's Extended Care Program is fully licensed. Children must be registered with all completed paperwork turned in. ECP is open on school days and for summer camp, but children must be pre-registered. Parents/guardians are responsible for all ECP fees; failure to pay may result in dismissal from the program.

*Mother of Good Counsel Catholic School is an inclusive urban community committed to:
serving, learning, loving, and living lives of integrity as Christ did.*