



# KidMail

November 29, 2023

Dear MGC Family,

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. These next few weeks as we prepare for Advent are exciting! Students will be engaging in Advent prayers and activities as we focus on preparing our hearts with kindness for the coming of Jesus.

Monday marked the beginning of the 2nd trimester. During this time we test students in math and reading to begin to track progress. Please make sure you take time to carefully review and confirm with your child's teacher that you have received the report. A grade of 3 on a standard indicates that a student has proficiently reached the standard and that the student has demonstrated that he or she is competent in mastery of that skill. A 2 means a student is developing the skill, but he or she is still not able to demonstrate or provide evidence of full proficiency. Our goal is that students are 100% proficient for ALL standards. A score of 1 means a student has not demonstrated or provided any evidence of meeting the standard or within the academic zone of that particular standard. Report cards will be emailed to you soon. In order to maximize learning and proficiency in standards, all classes are required to assign projects that build capacity in multiple standards and content areas. Ask your child what project he or she is working on. It's wonderful to see their work on display, and so many classes are currently engaging in a variety of exciting projects for the new trimester.

Finally, as the weather gets colder, I want to remind parents that we do conduct recess on snowy or cold days (we do not have outdoor recess when wind chills are near or below zero, or during blizzard like conditions). Students need to have snow pants, boots, and proper attire in order to play in snow. Furthermore, as those winter winds pick up, students will need warm hats, gloves, and winter coats. Sweatshirt jackets and fleeces do not provide enough warmth. Please make sure students bring boots as well as shoes to school. Students are not allowed to wear winter boots or fashion boots inside the school building.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (414) 442-7600 extension 119 or at [Johnston@mgcparish.org](mailto:Johnston@mgcparish.org). As I may be in a meeting, observing classes or engaging in school activities, I ask that you leave a message on my voicemail with a phone number and a time that works best for a call back.

In Faith,  
*Rachel Johnston*  
Principal

## **Dates of Importance**

Nov. 30 Blessing of Advent Wreaths at Mass

Dec. 1 Fr. Reed's Anniversary of being Pastor at MGC

Dec. 3 First Sunday of Advent

Dec. 8 MGC turns 98! Mass – Immaculate Conception and tour of the Blessed Francis Jordan House

Dec. 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe 6:30 PM Mass

Dec. 16 & 17 Christmas Bake Sale after Masses



## **Thanksgiving Food Drive**



The school received a beautiful thank you note from the St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Bank. It said, “Dear MGC Students and Staff, We are deeply grateful for your generosity and kindness. Your Thanksgiving donations help to fill the shelves of our food pantry and enable us to meet the needs of our neighbors.”

## **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 which 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](#)

## Snowball Promises

Snowball promises were sent home today. Please review this with your child/ren and return them tomorrow with your children. Each family will receive one sheet with the promise and places for all children to sign.

## ECP – Planning Ahead

On December 21, an 11:30 dismissal day, ECP will be open to K3, K4, K5 and their siblings for the afternoon.

## DentaMed



DentaMed's licensed dental providers will be offering **free** cleanings and fluoride treatments to our students in January. 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.

## Lunch Menu

Here are the breakfast and lunch menus for the month of December. They are found on the website.

<https://uploads.weconnect.com/mce/e411a490148911bb6ee16beaa6f794a437b3bc9d/LunchMenu/23-24/December%202023%20Menus.pdf>

## VIP Picture Update

Pictures have been taken. You'll be able to select your image for your yearbook and purchase any portraits, and all orders will be delivered to your home. To view and order photos from Picture Day click on the link and fill in the information needed <https://www.vipis.com/group/0f4fc677/mother-of-good-counsel> Or, you can search for them at [vipis.com](https://www.vipis.com) shortly after photos are taken. If you need further assistance, contact VIP at [support@vipis.com](mailto:support@vipis.com).

## 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.

## 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 @mgcparish

## 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](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](http://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



- 1 - Fr. Reed's Anniversary of being pastor of MGC
- 3 - First Sunday of Advent
- 5 - School Committee Meeting
- 6 - St. Nicholas
- 8 - MGC's 98 birthday, Mass at 8:45
- 12 - Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- 20 - Wear Be Kind shirt and uniform bottoms
- 21 - Mass then Nativity Play, 11:30 Dismissal
- 22 - No school, Christmas vacation begins

**Full calendar may be found on the School News page**

<https://www.mgcparish.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.*