



# KidMail

December 7, 2023

Dear MGC Family,

This week is a special week for Mother of Good Counsel. On Friday, Mother of Good Counsel celebrates 98 years of excellence in Catholic education! Fourth grade will be leading Mass on Friday, December 8, at 8:45AM and we invite you to join us. For 98 years, MGC has been a beacon of hope and light in this community. Literally, thousands of children and families have been positively impacted by the gift of Catholic education. Many of our students go on to be quite successful at private high schools such as Pius XI, Dominican, Divine Savior Holy Angels and Marquette. These schools provide students with many opportunities for success for their prospective careers.

However, success doesn't happen overnight. We believe that we will begin to pave that road right here starting in K3. This week, you should have received your child's report card. Please make sure you carefully review, reach out if you have any questions, and confirm with your child's teacher that you have received this important information. Here at MGC we encourage each child to achieve. We encourage each child not to only master standards but go above and beyond. We also believe that learning needs to be deep and long lasting. We support project-based learning with high expectations and standards. Students will be asked to go back and fix mistakes and to put forth more effort if needed. We do our best to instill pride in all that we do-PROUD TO BE MGC!

We are also starting our first week of Advent. This is such a special time of year. Our Advent theme this year is "we are preparing our hearts with kindness for the coming of Christ". We are spending a lot of time these days speaking with children about kindness and respect. I ask parents to review this with your children at home. Here at MGC, we do not condone the following behaviors, and they will be met with disciplinary action: bullying, targeted harassment of other students, name-calling, pushing, shoving, play fighting, or physical aggression of any kind, or verbal arguments and aggressive behavior. Furthermore, again, we do not allow the use of cellphones before, during or after school anywhere here on the MGC campus. We also do not allow students to wear tattoos or to draw tattoos on themselves. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me at [johnston@mgcparish.org](mailto:johnston@mgcparish.org) or at (414) 442- 7600 extension 119. It truly takes a village and our whole community to provide a healthy and safe learning environment for all.

In Faith,  
*Rachel Johnston*  
Principal

## **Dates of Importance**

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  
Dec. 20 Wear Be Kind shirt and uniform bottoms  
Dec. 21 Mass at 8:45 AM then Nativity Play, 11:30 Dismissal



## **ECP – Planning Ahead **New Change****

On December 21, an 11:30 dismissal day, ECP will be open to K3, K4, K5, **1st, 2nd** and their siblings for the afternoon. You must register by Dec. 8.

## **Report Cards**

Report Cards were sent home through email on Monday. Please let your child's homeroom teacher know that you've seen the report card.

## **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 last week. 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.

## 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.

## 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).

## 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, snow pants, 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.

## 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



- 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



- 2 - No school In-service
- 3 - Classes resume
- 9 - School Committee Meeting
- 12 - Warm and Cozy Day
- 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.*