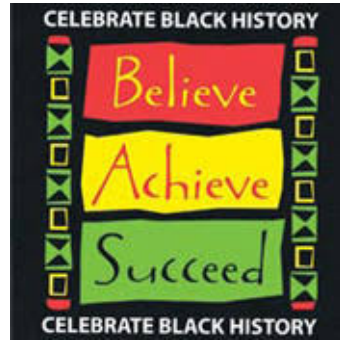




MOTHER OF  
GOOD COUNSEL

Dear MGC Family,



# KidMail

February 15, 2024

What a wonderful week here at MGC! A big shout out to the 8th graders who worked so diligently on their Mardi Gras Carnival projects and hosted a wonderful event. Thank you to those who came to join the fun! Children also were able to celebrate St. Valentine with sweet treats on Tuesday as well. Mardi Gras is a wonderful tradition here at MGC. However, even more wonderful is that today we received our ashes to commence the beginning of the Lenten season.

During Lent, we pause to recognize the sacrifice Jesus made for our salvation. We pause to look not outward for wisdom, but inward. Many people think Lent is about giving up something, but it's really about doing the tough spiritual work to make the changes within ourselves to be the best person we can be in order to serve others with integrity. We deprive our every little want or indulgence, to connect more with our spirituality and with God. I am asking that this year, we work with our children to give up aggressiveness with patience, tolerance, empathy and understanding. I ask that you continue to encourage your child to stand up for others when they are being mistreated, just as Jesus stood up for us. We ask that children give up unkind and judgmental language, for using language that lifts others up instead of putting others down. Lent is the perfect time for us to ask for forgiveness from God and others, and to forgive others who may have wronged us. I know if we work together, we can continue to make MGC a strong and safe learning environment for ALL students.

I hope you will take a minute to check out our awesome photo gallery for photos of the Mardi Gras Carnival on our website. <https://www.mgcp parish.org/school-photos>

As always, if you have any questions, concerns or comments, please feel free to reach out to me at (414) 442-7600 extension 119 or at [johnston@mgcp parish.org](mailto:johnston@mgcp parish.org).

In Faith,  
*Rachel Johnston*  
Principal

## **Dates of Importance**

Feb. 16 11:30 Dismissal, Conferences

Feb. 19 No school In-service

Feb. 21 Wear Be Kind shirt and uniform bottoms

March 7 11:30 Dismissal, End of T2

March 8 No school, In-service

March 18-April 26 Forward Testing

March 20 Wear Be Kind shirt and uniform bottoms

March 28 11:30 Dismissal, Easter Vacation begins

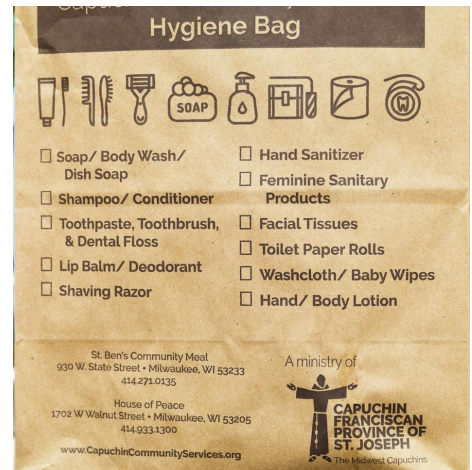


## Parent Teacher Conferences

Conferences will be held on February 16, 2024 from 1:00-7:00p.m. Please be aware that February 16 is an early dismissal day of 11:30. Conference times went home. Conferences are mandatory for students who are being requested. For some students, this might be a very critical conference as we begin to look toward next year and grade promotions. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding conferences.

## Capuchins Hygiene Bags

Together with the Capuchins, we are collecting items for Bags went home today – we are collecting hygiene items for those in need. These items will be distributed to those at St. Ben's and The House of Peace. The items needed are listed on the bag itself. This service project goes until March 26.



## Next Year???

Yes, believe it or not, it's almost time to start registration for the 2024-2025 school year! School Choice opened on February 1. **This window closes on February 20, 2024.** Parents, please keep a copy of your January WE bill, cable bill, or a pay stub dated in January. You will need to log in to your DPI account in and register and then send us your proof of address – using one of the documents listed above. Let's try to have all returning students re-registered in February.

<https://sms.dpi.wi.gov/ChoiceParent/>

## Black History Month

This month each classroom is working on a particular project pertaining to Black History and current Black leaders and influential persons.

This week's artist is: **Amanda Gorman.**

Amanda Gorman is known for poetry reading at President Biden's inauguration. Amanda serves as an inspiration for all of us. She was named the first-ever National Youth Poet Laureate of the United States.



"What would we seem, stripped down  
Like a wintered tree.  
Glossy scabs, tight-raised skin,  
These can look silver in certain moonlights.  
In other words,  
Our scars are the brightest  
Parts of us."-  
Amanda Gorman "Lucient"

Read more of her poetry at the following link.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/12/13/from-call-us-what-we-carry-poetry-by-amanda-gorman>

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/arts-and-life/entertainment/celebrities/poet-amanda-gorman-22-will-read-at-biden-inaugural-->

## ECP

Parents, just a reminder that any hours not covered through the Wisconsin Shares Program will leave you with a balance. Those of you with outstanding balances will receive a letter soon. These will have to be paid off or you will need to commit in writing to a payment plan, as your care will be suspended in February. Funds for ECP go to pay qualified employees, cleaning services, providing nutritious snacks, and enrichment activities. Please contact Mrs. Johnston if you have questions or concerns.

## 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. The link has been updated.

<https://uploads.weconnect.com/mce/e411a490148911bb6ee16beaa6f794a437b3bc9d/School/Birthday%20Club.pdf>

## Calendar Changes

Because of the snow days we had in January, we will be adding days to our calendar. May 10 will be a half-day and June 7 will also be a half-day. Previously these were Professional Development days.

## 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

## 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



16 - 11:30 Dismissal, Conferences  
19 - No School, In-service  
21 - Wear Be Kind shirt and uniform bottoms



7 - 11:30 Dismissal, End of T2  
8 - No school, In-service  
12 - School Committee Meeting  
18 - April 26 - Forward Testing  
20 - Wear Be Kind shirt and uniform bottoms  
28 - 11:30 Dismissal, Easter 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.*