



MOTHER OF
GOOD COUNSEL

Dear MGC Family,



KidMail

March 7, 2024

It's hard to believe it's already March and that we are heading into our last trimester. As we move forward in the year, it is essential that we meet our learning goals and standards. The end of the trimester is today, and Friday, March 8 is a professional development for teachers. Students do not attend school on Friday. I am very proud of those who have made their AR goals this trimester! As a former Language Arts teacher (nearly 20 years), I cannot emphasize enough the critical importance of reading and literacy. Students in grades 2-8 should be working on AR books nightly. This only serves to increase their vocabulary, reading comprehension and critical thinking skills-all of these are essential to success in high school.

I am seeing way too many pick-ups on 68th Street at the end of the day causing traffic jams and unsafe environments. The north lot is quite large. Unless you are picking up from ECP, cars should enter the gate from Burleigh, and exit onto 68th Street. Keep in mind there is no crossing guard or stopping traffic on that street. Furthermore, we are seeing students in grades 5-8, trying to leave the gate before the arrival of their pick-up. For many safety reasons, this cannot continue. Students need to stay inside the gate. If a student walks home, he or she may leave, but for pick-ups, those students need to wait for the arrival of the parent or ride. As I have said many times before, convenience and saving time are not excuses for any of us to take safety risks with our children. I ask that we all work together to follow the procedures put in place to keep our kids safe. I appreciate your time and attention to this matter.

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

In Faith,
Rachel Johnston
Principal

Dates of Importance

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



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.

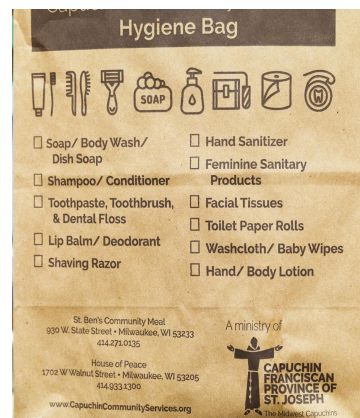
Forward Testing



All students in grades 3-8 will participate in the 2024 Forward Exams. Testing begins on March 18. It is important that parents talk to their children in advance and encourage them to do their very best on these exams. These results can be one of the factors taken into consideration for advancement from one grade to the next. **Parents are asked to be extra attentive to having their children present in school every day and on time.** Forward Testing time is March 18 – April 26.

Capuchins Hygiene Bags

Together with the Capuchins, 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 is open. Parents, please keep a copy of your February WE bill, cable bill, or a pay stub dated in February. 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/>

Kids Heart Challenge



We will be kicking off the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge on March 19. Students will learn heart-healthy habits, such as being active, sleeping more, and helping others-all while raising live-saving funds for people with special hearts! The challenge will finish the week of April 8. All donations are due April 10.

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.

Cellphones and Technology

Just a reminder MGC families of our cell phone policies here at MGC. Students are allowed to bring a cellphone to school, but they are to be turned off while on the MGC campus. This includes the church, playground, North lot, or any other area of the campus. Furthermore, each day students are to put those phones in a secure locked box in their homeroom. Students are not allowed to call parents or friends or text throughout the day. All phone calls are to be placed in the main office. Please be aware that students who try to capture on video any fighting, or verbal aggression or post videos on any social media formats can be out of school suspended or even up for expulsion. Furthermore, when students are using MGC computers or Chromebooks, these are the sole property of MGC, and communications on the applications are not private. MGC has email access, and security systems in place. Looking up inappropriate material, using profanity, making threats in chats, etc, is a serious violation that will be met with disciplinary action. Mrs. Johnston is happy to answer any questions regarding these policies. Thank you for your cooperation with this important matter and for helping keep MGC a safe space for learning.

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>

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

MGC's Website

Have you checked-out MGC's website (www.mgpcarish.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 - 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



- 8 - Classes resume
- 9 - School Committee Meeting
- 17 - Wear Be Kind shirt and uniform bottoms
- 26 - End of Forward testing

Full calendar may be found on the School News page

<https://www.mgcparish.org/school-news>

Parents/guardians are encouraged to check KidMail each week 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.*