

MGNS NEWSLETTER

November 2019



CALENDAR

- Oct 31 - Food Fight cards end
- Nov 4 - 8 Grandparents' Week
- Nov 5 - Culver's Night 5 to 8pm
- Nov 11 - Manatee Conferences
- Nov 12 - Manatee Conferences
- Nov 13 - Penguin Conferences
- Nov 13 - Mid-Semester Clean Up
6:30 to 8:30pm
- Nov 14 - Penguin Conferences
- Nov 17 - Fire Up Pottery
Fundraiser 11am to 4pm
- Nov 18 - Starfish Conferences
- Nov 18 - Dolphin Conferences
- Nov 19 - Starfish Conferences
- Nov 21 - Dolphin Conferences
- Nov 22 - Penguin Feast Day
- Nov 25 - Starfish Feast Day
- Nov 26 - Dolphin & Manatees
Feast Day
- Nov 27 - 29 Thanksgiving Break

We are getting to the time of year when inclement weather may cancel school. Monona Grove Nursery School closes when Madison Public Schools close. Please watch your TV or Radio for school closings and watch for the Madison Public Schools. If MGNS is not closed, please use your own discretion when the weather is bad. Don't travel if you don't feel safe!

Please be sure you are our partners in teaching kids how to get dressed by themselves. We also teach them to flip their coat over their head. It would really help if you could encourage them to try this at home. We help them here, but only after they give it a good try! Here is a YouTube video to show you the [Preschool Flip](#) (aka The Dive and Flip, or Tags to Toes.)

A BRIEFING FROM THE BOARD

Last month, I wrote about how our board's strategic planning in the spring is powering our board activity this fall. This month, I want to highlight the work of our long-term planning committee. That committee has been charged with the task of identifying things that the school can do now (and over the next five years) to put us in the strongest possible financial position in 2025. To that end, we are reviewing best practices for annual budgeting and surplus spending, clarifying and articulating goals for growing our assets, and ensuring we can continue to provide scholarship support to families who need it. As much as we possibly can, we want to align our resources so that they help us meet our mission -- to be the best place to learn and play -- not only now, but also well into the future.

In other news, our board is now brainstorming topics for our required winter parent meetings. If you have ideas, please share them by reaching out to our vice president Sarah Kopczyk (sarahkopczyk@gmail.com), who coordinates those meetings. Also, be on the lookout for a survey from her later this fall about all the possible topics. MGNS's status as a parent co-op makes those winter meetings mandatory for all families, so don't miss the opportunity to vote for the topics that will be most meaningful for your family!

Thank you so much for your patience as we undergo the installation of a more secure entrance at our entry door. It has certainly been a more drawn out project that we had wanted, but we are getting there.

We had two objectives when choosing this system. One was to have a system that would automatically lock and unlock the doors during entry times for families. This would mean that most of the time, except drop off and pick up times, the doors will be locked. This will mean that teachers do not have to leave their classrooms or remember when it is their turn to lock the door. That schedule is up and running and we have only had a glitch or two.

The second part, which has been more complicated, is that we will have a doorbell/camera that we can use on the school iPad, the school phone and the computers in my office. When that is working- we will be able to see who is at the door and unlock it for a minute from our device. You will need to listen for the click of the lock on the door, and as of this minute (2pm on 10/29) we have not figured out a strong enough WiFi signal to connect all the parts. But we are working on it! In the meantime, if you come and you are locked out- ring both doorbells. We are bouncing between them as things work and don't work - so ring them both. And Thank you for your patience!

UP COMING EVENTS and FUNDRAISERS

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR BUTTER BRAID SALES! WE RAISED \$1,900 FOR OUR SCHOOL!

FOOD FIGHTS CARDS

LAST CHANCE - Food Fight Cards for a Cause fundraiser ends October 31! We earn 10% of all gift card sales when you enter the code MGNS. Purchase gift cards at shop.foodfightinc.com/cards-for-a-cause and enter "MGNS" as the donation code. Gift cards are mailed to you at no additional cost and are good at ANY of the 20 awesome Food Fight Restaurants.

GRANDPARENT'S WEEEK

Grandparent's Week is November 4 – 8. All grandparents are welcome to join us in the classrooms for a day. We do this twice a year, again in the spring. We hope to lots of Grandparents joining us to share their special skills or talents

CULVER'S NIGHT

Culver's Night is Tuesday, November 5 from 5:00 to 8:00pm. An easy and delicious way to support MGNS!

SCHOOL PICTURES

Picture Day is an MGNS Fundraiser! 15% of all orders are donated to MGNS!

Starfish & Dolphins: Wednesday, November 6

Penguins & Manatees: Thursday, November 7

Toddler Time: Either Wednesday 11/6 or Thursday 11/7

Fired Up Pottery Event: Sunday, November 17 from 11:00am to 4:00pm A fun way to get a jump on holiday shopping or to just enjoy a relaxing afternoon getting creative with family and/or friends. MGNS earns 30% of all purchases (including gift cards!). We hope to see you there... snacks and treats provided.

ART CARDS

Reminder! Save your child's artwork this fall (or even from last school year!) for ART CARDS! Your child's artwork becomes one-of-a-kind custom greeting cards. Orders forms will be sent home in brown bags the week before Thanksgiving.

CONTACTS

If you have questions about fundraisers, please feel free to contact any of your Fundraising Coordinators: Kathryn Mingione (kpmingione@gmail.com), Kelly Griseta (grisetakj@gmail.com), or Danielle Goldsmith (dkgoldapple@gmail.com).

“Children see magic because they look for it.”

— Christopher Moore, writer

