

MGNS NEWSLETTER

July 2020



Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! We do not know what the coming fall will mean for MGNS, but we wanted to do this July newsletter to be sure to keep all of you in the loop with our thinking. Most of all, we are looking forward to meeting your children and starting them off on their educational journey. Our entire staff is committed to creatively and cooperatively making this a fantastic year at MGNS.

At this point in time, there are several options for how school might go in the fall- we will be basing our decisions on the Madison School District and how they decide to open school, as well as the Forward Dane guidelines for childcare centers. So, there are a lot of possibilities: School opening as normal with several different procedures in place, school not opening, but having an online component for the MMSD4K kiddos, and a hybrid of those two possibilities. But be assured that our staff and board are working hard both to determine the best model, and to prepare ourselves for all of the things that school in the life of Covid brings.

If our school were to open right now, while Dane County is in "phase two" these various things would be in place:

- Hybrid classes with small numbers of kids in each class. Your child would attend "in person" half of the days he is scheduled, and there would be "at home" activities to do on the other days.
- No lunch bunch - the recommendation is that we don't mix kids from different classes.
- No Parent helpers in our classrooms- again, the recommendation is that we limit the kids exposure to adults and keep it to just their teachers.
- All adults being masked or wearing a face shield- including staff and adults dropping off.
- All people entering the building will have their temperature taken.
- Rolling entry and pickup times to allow for less adults in the hallway.

We don't know what will be true in the fall, but we do know this. We are all working together to create awesome experiences for your kids, whatever the limitations. And we welcome your ideas and thoughts.

Following us on [Facebook](#) to keep updated!

A BRIEFING FROM THE BOARD

Hello MGNS Families! My name is Kathryn Mingione and I will be serving as President of the Board of Directors this year. I have been a Fundraising Coordinator for the past 2 years and am happy to be continuing on the board in a new capacity. My oldest son, an MGNS grad, will be a first grader at Elvehem Elementary in the fall; my son Sal will be a Penguin this coming year, and my 15-month-old, will be coming up through the ranks all in good time! I am excited to learn and lead in my new role. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time (kpmingione@gmail.com). I hope you are all having a wonderful summer!

In light of recent events, we want to address our school's commitment to anti-racist work. We have always believed children should be accepted as individuals with individual abilities and interests allowing for the development of a positive self-concept. This belief requires us to stand for equity and justice for all children and their families, especially those children and families in the Black community. The board of directors and staff are actively working to keep this commitment strong and consistent for our families. We welcome suggestions from our wider community as we move forward.

TODDLER TIME

We have lots of room in our fall Toddler Time classes. Our Toddler time classes will be limited, this year to between 3-5 kids and their grown ups. We will be taking all precautions that are recommended for that age range to be sure that our kiddos are safe. So if you have a friend or neighbor who might be interested, please encourage them to apply. [Toddler Time Application](#).

SCHOLASTIC BOOK

Looking for some new books? Scholastic book club offers lots of great books at reasonable prices, and our school earns points for each purchase to expand our school library! Over the summer, we offer home delivery via a contactless front porch drop off. SO order here: <https://clubs.scholastic.com/preschool/> School code is: RNZYK

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The current draft of our school calendar is available [here](#). We also have a Google Calendar, so if you would like to be added to that, please let me know at suecmgns@gmail.com.

ONLINE ENROLLMENT

This year we are handling most kid's paperwork through our ELV system. You should have received an invitation to enroll your child from Sue Carr, our school director. If you need another invite, please let me know at suecmgns@gmail.com. If you can complete your initial enrollment as soon as possible, that would be great. It should take about 10-15 minutes.

A second ELV email will be coming soon with some additional forms for the start of school.

Starfish - MTW am Sherri (Sherismgns@gmail.com) and Dawn (Dawnvmgns@gmail.com)

Penguins - TH and FR AM Jodi (jodismgns@gmail.com) and Sue (suecmgns@gmail.com)

Dolphins - 4K T-FR AM Stacey (Staceynmgns@gmail.com) and Juli (julihmgns@gmail.com)

Manatees - 4K/3 T-FR PM Erin (Erindmgns@gmail.com) and Juli (Julihmgns@gmail.com)

Toddler Time - MTW Patrice (patricesmngns@gmail.com)

Toddler Time – TH and FR Katie (katiepmgns@gmail.com)

**Surround everyone you can think of
in bubbles of love.**

- Diana Cooper

