

MGNS NEWSLETTER

May/June 2025



CALENDAR

May 2 – No School
Dolphins & Sea Otters

May 5 – Starfish Field Trip

May 7 – Dolphins Field Trip

May 8 – Penguins AM Field
Trip & Sea Otters PM Field
Trip

May 20 – School Packing
Day

May 26 – Memorial Day No
School

Jun 3 – Last Day in the
classroom for Starfish

Jun 4 – Picnic (not a drop
off day) Starfish

June 5 – Last Day of
Toddler Time

Jun 5 – Last Day in the
classroom for Penguins,
Dolphins, and Sea Otters

Jun 5 – MGNS Volunteers
Sewing Machine Project
Move Out Day

Jun 6 – Picnic Penguins,
Dolphins, and Sea Otters
(not a drop off day)

Jun – 30 Packing Day



FROM THE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Spring has sprung at MGNS! We love being out on the playground, with the water table, the hose, our garden boxes planted, birds in our birdhouse- we love all of those signs of spring! We are looking forward to our last months with this great group of kids! Coming up in May is our annual Field Trip to Aldo Leopold Nature Center - Be sure you know when your class is going and come along if you can! It is always a fun morning reveling in investigating the signs of spring in the prairie, forest, and pond! And of course, we end the year with a parent teacher conference to celebrate the growth and development of your child. Be sure you are signed up for that as well!

Our hallway garage sale will continue until the end of the year, with new things added each week as we continue to clean out our storage rooms to prepare to move. We appreciate your donations in the bucket, but whether you can donate or not, please help yourself to a new-to-you puzzle or book or a can of some fun wall paint! Whoop!

MGNS will be having a very busy summer preparing and moving to our new location! We would love your help if you can

We are still seeking 2 members for next year's board. The Open positions are Purchaser and Member at Large. If you are interested, please contact Nicole at vicepresident@mgns.org or fill out [this interest form](#).

Finally, if your family is leaving us this spring and headed off to kindergarten or another school, please know this-You are always part of the MGNS family and we are always happy to hear from you! We LOVE to know how our kids are doing, so do please keep in touch!

Get out there and enjoy and weather!

Sue

Is your littlest one ready for Toddler Time? This wildly popular program was created as a stepping stone to preschool! We have openings for the fall in our Monday class and in our Friday class! You can read all about Toddler Time and enroll on our [website](#).



FUNDRAISERS

We Did It—Together!

A heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who bid, donated, and participated in our **Spring Fling Silent Auction!** Your incredible enthusiasm and generosity helped us raise an astounding **\$16,116.81!**

Every single dollar will go directly toward making our new school a nurturing space where our kids can truly thrive.

We couldn't have done it without you—your support makes all the difference. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you, thank you, thank you!



SAME HEART, NEW START CAMPAIGN

As you've heard (or seen on the heart "thermometer") the temperature slowly but surely continues to rise for our capital campaign **Same Heart, New Start**. Our Spring Fling silent auction was a smashing success and engaged many donors. We also had a great outpouring of support from grandparents and extended families who were able to attend the event on April 12! This was wonderful to see and it's just this kind of community support that will keep us getting closer to our goal. Let's keep these ripples going! Here are some unique ways to donate to MGNS as a 501(c)3 that we've learned about in this process:

- Employer Matching to Personal Contributions
- Teaming up with other families/friends to make a bigger impact (naming opportunities available!)
- Donating stock directly to MGNS
- Donor Advised Funds (*P.S. If you want to learn about some tax-saavy ways to donate - we've got a guy for that! Starfish Dad, Joey Baer!)

And most importantly, remember that a donation of any amount WILL make a difference. All is appreciated. We are so proud of our community and how we have rallied around our cause. THANK YOU - we are so excited for the future of MGNS!

Questions? Email Campaign Lead, Kathryn Mingione | kathrynm@mgns.org

Support Our Move: Exciting Volunteer Opportunities Ahead! We're gearing up for a monumental move, and we need your help to make it a success! Our renovations are set to begin on the new building in June. Throughout the summer, we'll have plenty of opportunities for volunteering, providing donations, and even purchasing items that we will use at our new facility—all proceeds going directly towards renovation and move costs.

Keep an eye out in your brown bag for more details on how you can contribute to this exciting chapter. Your support means the world to us as we carve out a bright future together!

Upcoming Volunteer opportunities:

May 20 – During school hours, join us for a packing day at MGNS!

June 5 – MGNS volunteers will assist the Sewing Machine Project with moving out of the building at LELC, paving the way for our renovations to commence.

June 30 – General Packing Day – Childcare on Playground!

To offer your help generally, please use this link: [HELP US MOVE!!!](#) Watch your brown bags for a list of specific dates, times and tasks and a sign up for each!

HELPFUL NEWS FROM THE TEACHERS

Spring brings us so much fun on the playground but also so much mud and sand! If you can, please send boots or outside shoes for the playground, and another pair of shoes for inside. That will really help us keep the sand and mud out of our classrooms!

Also, there is lots of water on our playground! Please remember that our rainsuits are always available for your kiddos to wear and we have a fair number of rainboots available to borrow as well.

A reminder of three things coming up for each of our Preschool 4K kiddos.

- Field trip to Aldo Leopold Nature Center
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Family Picnic on the last day of school

Another important announcement! Your classroom google groups will be disabled on the last day of school so that we can create new groups for next year's kiddos to set up summer playdates. SO! If you need to gather contact information for your kids special friends in their current class, do it soon!

If you are returning next year, the class ambassador for your class will be reaching out for a couple of summer playdates– (See list of great parks below!)

Finally, summer is coming to us! Here are a few things that are happening around town for your reference!

[Lakeside Kids](#)

[Nature Passport](#)

[Madison Public Library Summer Reading Programs](#)

Our friends at Madison Family have curated a list of great [playgrounds](#)! Can you meet your friends at every single one this summer?

Remember to follow up on Social Media - especially if you are leaving us this spring! We LOVE to keep in touch!

 **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/MononaGroveNurserySchool/>



 **Instagram:** @learnwithmgns

