

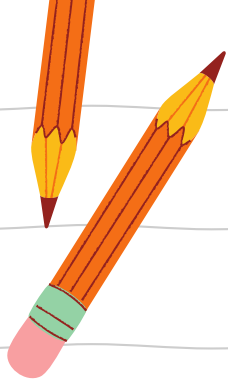
Back To School

Hello
September
2024

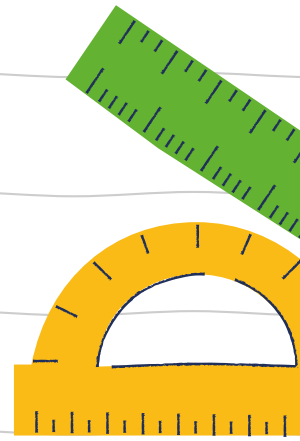


**GETTYSBURG
MONTESSORI**
CHARTER SCHOOL

Inspiring a Love of Learning



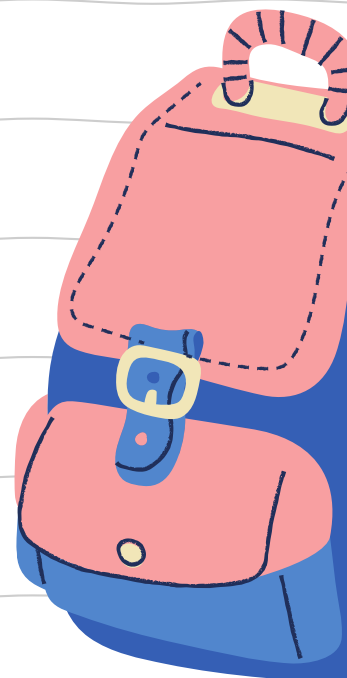
No School
September 02, 2024



GMCS Health and Safety Plan
is on our website

To access the Student-Parent Handbook,
please see the link below.

[Click Here](#)





Picture Day

Mark your calendars.

Picture Day is September 18, 2024.


1. Visit pictures-r-us.com
2. Click on Order Photos
3. Enter Password: gmcs2024
4. Enter Your Email Address
5. Place Order






Food Services

Lunch Menu



To access our lunch menu please go to our website under the Student Tab, School Meals.

[Click Here](#)



As part of our school's compliance with the National School Lunch Program, we must participate in an audit every four years. Our school lunch program is being audited for the 2023-2024 school year. Please contact the Food Services Department if you have any questions about this audit.



Thank you!

Right to Request Teacher Qualifications

As a parent of a student attending a school that is receiving Federal Title I dollars, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the teacher(s) and instructional paraprofessional(s) who instruct your child. Federal law requires every Title I school district to comply and to provide you with the requested information in a timely manner.

We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which was signed into law in December 2015 and reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1956 (ESEA) includes additionally right-to-know requests. At any time, parents and family members can request:

- Information on policies regarding student participation in assessments and procedures for opting out, and
- Information on required assessments that include:
- Subject matter tested, purpose of the test, source of the requirement (if applicable), amount of time it takes students to complete the test, and time and format of disseminating results.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes making sure that all our teachers and paraprofessionals meet applicable Pennsylvania state requirements.

We look forward to the upcoming school year, and together we will make a difference in your child's life.



GMCS Nurse Update

Hello GMCS Families,

It was wonderful to meet so many of you at Back to School night. If we haven't yet met, please feel free to call, email, or come to see me. I will always welcome hearing from families so I know best how to care for your child.

As the new year begins, please be sure that any prescription medications that might be needed during the school day, have been delivered directly to the nurse along with the completed and signed forms. These medications might include emergency or "as needed" medications in case of allergy, asthma, anaphylaxis, or seizure. You will need new medication forms completed by the doctor each year, for each medication. If you need the forms, they are available on the school website or you may request copies from the nurse. Do not send medications on the bus (unless your doctor has signed approval for your student to carry emergency medication).

Please remember to keep contact information and over the counter medication consents update to date in FACTS.

Wishing you and your family the happiest and healthiest school year ever!

Best regards,
Audrey Chapman, RN





GMCS

Nurse Update

WHEN SHOULD YOU STAY HOME? SICK DAY OR SCHOOL DAY?

Wondering when you should keep your child home from school and when it's OK to send them? Help prevent the spread of germs by washing hands and surfaces, and keeping sick kids home from school.

FEVER

Any fever over 100.4 should be kept at home until 24 hours fever free without any medicine. You should not give your child fever-reducing medicine before school.

VOMITING & DIARRHEA

Vomiting and diarrhea should be kept home until at least 24 hours with no more symptoms.

PINKEYE

Pinkeye looks like a red eye, lots of goopy drainage, and intense itching. It is very easily transmittable. Pinkeye must be treated for at least 24 hours with prescription medication from a doctor before returning to school.

COUGH & COLD

Obvious, disruptive coughs and colds should be kept home until under control. Not only is the student unable to concentrate but they are preading germs to everyone else.

HEAD LICE

Any student with live active lice must stay home until treated and lice are no longer present. Proof of treatment should be brought to the nurse. Students may come to school with nits but nits should be removed nightly until all clear.

GENERAL ILLNESS

You know your child best. If they are under the weather and you think they would benefit from staying home and not spreading germs or getting some rest then that is what you should do.

IT'S A SCHOOL DAY IF:

It's ok to go to school if you have things like allergies, rashes, bug bites, injuries, chronic illnesses (asthma, sickle cell, epilepsy), or if the doctor has cleared your child and says it's ok. If you're not sure then call your school nurse.



Be prepared with CHIP. Free or low-cost healthcare for Pennsylvania kids and teens.

CHIP COVERS

- Routine check-ups
- Prescriptions
- Hospitalization
- Dental
- Eye Care
- Eyeglasses
- Behavioral care
- Specialty care
- More

There is no limit on income. If your income is below CHIP guidelines, your child may be enrolled in Medical Assistance.

CHIP covers uninsured kids up to age 19 in Pennsylvania. It doesn't matter why your kids don't have health coverage right now; CHIP may be able to help. Most kids receive CHIP for free. Others can get the same benefits at a low cost.

CHIP is brought to you by leading health insurance companies who offer quality, comprehensive coverage.

APPLY/RENEW

CHIPcoversPAkids.com • 800-986-KIDS

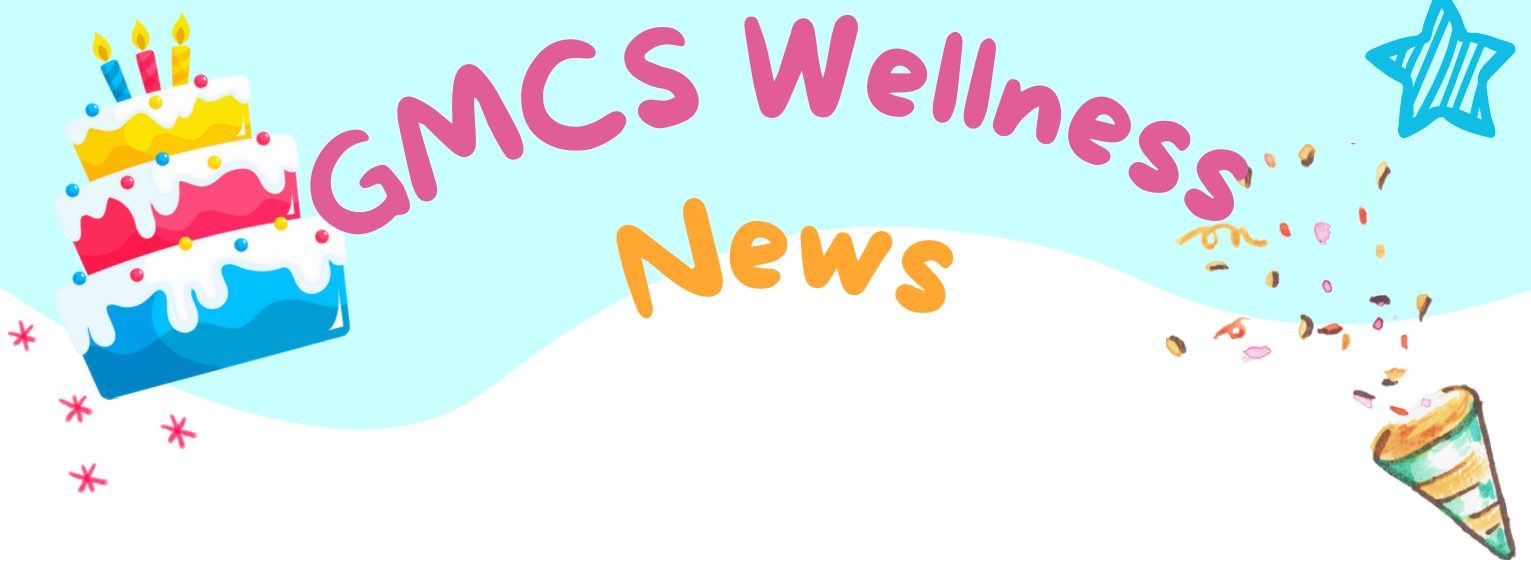


Pennsylvania's Children's
Health Insurance Program
We Cover All Kids.

Welcome New Staff



We would like to welcome our new staff to the GMCS family! We are excited to have them join the GMCS family!



Our school has moved to move to food-free classrooms for birthday celebrations due to health and allergy reasons. There are plenty of ideas to celebrate a Happy Birthday at school without food.

Some ideas include:

- 1. Supply a craft - Bring in a craft (enough for the class) to complete.**
- 2. Pass out goodies - Bring non-food items for the class like stickers, pencils, pencil toppers, bouncy balls, bookmarks, crayons, etc.**
- 3. Show and tell - The birthday student gets to bring something in from home and share with the class.**
- 4. Have a bubbly recess - Bring small bottles of bubbles and have the class blow bubbles at recess.**
- 5. Share a book - Bring in the child's favorite book for themselves or their teacher to read to the class.**
- 6. Sign a shirt - Bring in a solid color t-shirt or a special birthday shirt that classmates can sign and wear for their birthday.**



Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

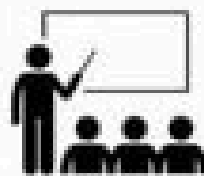
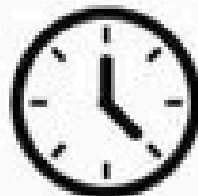
When a student misses **2** days a month

They miss **20 DAYS** a year (**10%** of the school year)

They miss **30 HOURS** of math instruction.

They miss **60 HOURS** of reading and writing instruction.

They will miss over **1 YEAR** of school by graduation.



When a student misses **4** days a month

They miss **40 DAYS** a year (**20%** of the school year)

They miss **60 HOURS** of math instruction.

They miss **120 HOURS** of reading and writing instruction.

They will miss over **2 YEARS** of school by graduation.



Calling all Volunteers!

We have several events planned this year and need your help to make them successful. Please make sure you have all of your updated volunteer clearances in the front office.

Clearances are valid for five years.

<https://www.gettysburgmontessoricharter.org/volunteers.html>

Stay up to date!

<https://www.gettysburgmontessoricharter.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/GettysburgMontessori/>

*This is the official GMCS Facebook page



Playground Reminders

Have fun, be safe, and be kind.

- Playground is open to the public after GMCS school hours. School hours 8:30am to 3:30pm.
- For the safety of students and and staff, students and or parents may no longer enter the school to use restrooms and water fountains.
- Help keep our grounds safe, and clean.
- No pets allowed on the playground. Please clean up after pets in the grass area.
- Please leave all gym equipment where it is.



GMCS EVENTS



Scarecrow Event

For the 8th year, our school is participating in a scarecrow decorating event to raise money for the SPCA. The school is looking for parent volunteers to help students create scarecrows, and deliver the scarecrows to local businesses.

If you are interested in participating, contact the front office at info@gettysburgmontessoricharter.org for more information.

Your teacher will email you a list of supplies the classroom is looking for.

Gettysburg Parade

GMCS will be walking in the Gettysburg parade on October 22, 2024. We would like to have everyone wear a GMCS T-Shirt. Parade details will be sent out in October.





Save the Dates

Scarecrow Event 10/02

Fall Book Fair 09/30-10/04

Open House 10/02 - 4pm to 6pm

Gettysburg Parade 10/22

Fall Spirit Week 10/28 to 11/01

Fall Celebrations Parade 11/01

Coffee Fundraiser

**More information will be sent home
the end of September.**



Look Ahead October

**Early Dismissal 12pm
October 11, 2024**

**No School
October 14, 2024**



October