

CONTINUOUS LEARNING ●●● DURING COVID-19 ●●●



Students Adjust to Home-Based Learning

Students throughout the GRACE school system are adapting to home-based Continuous Learning in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

"I got in the swing of things after the first two days," said Kaylee Murphy, a sixth-grade student at St. John the Baptist School. "The teachers put everything in one spot online, and I get it and go from there. We use Google Classroom and Loom for videos."

"It's definitely different, but it's not any harder," she added. "I'm pretty familiar with computers, so that has made everything easier, I think. I feel pretty comfortable with everything."

On March 12, one day after the World Health Organization declared the rapidly spreading coronavirus a pandemic, the GRACE school system announced that school buildings would be closed for at least two weeks and home-based Continuous Learning platforms would be implemented for the nearly 2,250 students spanning our nine GRACE schools.

Upon returning from spring break on March 16, there were no classes for the first two days of the week as teachers prepared lessons and materials for students to pick up. Home-based learning began on March 18, and, after an initial extension, was further extended on April 16 for the remainder of this school year following an emergency order from the state government.



"It has been quite a rollercoaster and learning curve for all of us," said Krista Murphy, who has four children in GRACE at St. John the Baptist School — Kaylee (grade 6), Colin (grade 4), Brianna (grade 1) and Ryan (preschool). "It took us a little bit of time to get in the groove right away."

"So I'm very appreciative of all of the efforts and different ways the kids' teachers have reached out and utilized so many different technologies so we're not missing out on what would be happening," she said. "It was amazing to see how quickly Mr. (Andrew) Mulloy (the principal) was able to get all the teachers on the same page and have cohesiveness with the different grade levels. Everybody did a great job making

**FOR GRACE UPDATES RELATING TO THE CORONAVIRUS,
PLEASE VISIT WWW.GRACESYSTEM.ORG/CORONAVIRUS**

Students Adjust to Home-Based Learning Continued...



things streamlined for the parents.”

Krista’s middle two children, Colin and Brianna, echoed their older sisters’ sentiments in saying the transition has been relatively smooth.

“Everything is going good,” Colin said. “I can do a lot of work online, and I can do it at my pace. I’ve gotten used to Google Classroom and it’s fun to do. It’s easy to understand how to do things when I see my teacher showing me on a video.”

Brianna, who uses the Seesaw program, added: “My parents are helpful and I would say things are going pretty well for me.”

To successfully juggle the work duties she and her husband, Nick, had to complete, Krista said the family adheres to a daily schedule.

“I’m someone who values routines, so that was one of the first things we did,” Krista said. “Everybody is on the same time schedule, and everybody has their own workspace areas.”

Family exercise (for gym lessons) is from 8 to 9 a.m. Then they shift focus to other tasks. By 9:30 a.m. the children are involved with reading, math and then recess. After another school subject, it’s time for lunch, followed by movie time (which is when Krista schedules her work meetings). Studies resume after that, with another recess break mixed in along the way. Once a week the family also watches the Broadway musical “Godspell.”

“The teachers’ lesson plans are so clear I don’t feel like I’m doing any teaching, just some organizing,” Krista said. “And in terms of what the kids are getting for lessons, I feel they are getting very similar progression in their assignments as they’d get

if they were still in the school building. They’re working through workbooks same way they would at school.”

GRACE parent Darcie Derouin expressed similar feelings, saying “things are going really well” for her two children — Isabel (grade 6) and Max (grade 4) — who are students at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School.

“Every night we get emails from the teachers with detailed lists of what needs to get done, and they usually have videos and attachments to help out,” Darcie said. “Then the next morning Isabel and Max usually get right to it and do what they need to do. It’s pretty detailed and laid out for everyone.”

The family typically starts each weekday with a prayer between 8:30 and 9 a.m. Then the children dive into their schoolwork until 11:30 a.m., followed by Bible study, lunch and a break. Then it’s back to their studies until about 3:30 or 4 p.m.

“Both of them adjusted right from day one to the new schedule, and things have gone well,” Darcie said. “They have their own work rooms, and occasionally they do projects together that involve art or gym.”

Isabel and Max each said the transition has been seamless.

“I’m having fun learning this way because I’m here doing it with my family and I like that,” Isabel said. “I think our teachers do a good job explaining our homework and showing us in videos. That makes it easier. And if I have a question I email them for help.”

Added Max: “I haven’t had any challenges. It’s going good. I miss my friends, but the homework part I think is good.”

GRACE parent Jeanne Jenquin also said home-based learning is going well for her family.

Jeanne and her husband are essential workers required to work outside the home each day, so her two younger daughters — Molly and Julia, fifth-grade twins at St. Bernard Catholic School — have been closely following their teachers’ lesson plans. Also home during the daytime is their older sister, Sofia, who attends Notre Dame Academy.

“Molly and Julia are both doing very well — their maturity is really showing,” Jeanne said. “The teachers have been very flexible and understanding because we don’t have

a parent home during the day. So I’m thankful for that.”

“Things are probably a lot smoother even than what I expected,” she added. “I came home from work the first day and they had been working on their homework and said everything went OK. So we’ll just keep doing the best job we can.”



WE ARE: GRACE:



FATHER ALLOUEZ CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Principal | Kay Franz
432-5223, Elementary School
- St. Matthew Campus
336-3230, Middle School
- Resurrection Campus

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Principal | Sharon Gast
468-0625

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Principal | Steve Gromala
494-1931

NOTRE DAME SCHOOL OF DE PERE

Principal | Molly Mares
337-1103, Elementary School
337-1115, Middle School

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Principal | Jeff Young
336-3091

ST. BERNARD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Principal | Crystal Blahnik
468-5026

ST. JOHN PAUL II CLASSICAL SCHOOL

Headmaster | Alex Wolf
617-9542

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST SCHOOL

Principal | Andrew Mulloy
434-3822

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Interim Principal |
Dr. Steve Kimball
432-8242



President Welcome

Dear GRACE Community:

It is an extraordinary time in our lives, in our schools and in our Church. Our faith and our schools are a uniting force for us all — together. This electronic edition of GRACE News focuses on this time of Continuous Learning and COVID-19 “Safer At Home.” You will read and see photos about new learning techniques, ways in which families are engaging together, how our teachers are serving families and the manner in which the GRACE community is adapting and finding joy in a new normal.

Here are some simple examples that are representative of the extraordinary responses that have taken place in support of our GRACE family. These compassionate actions exemplify our spirit of connectedness and our commitment to be of service to one another. Please know this is only a sampling of the many gracious, faith-filled Works of Mercy occurring in our community.

- A GRACE principal drove to and delivered a Chromebook directly to a family’s front door when they shared a need for another device in their home.
- A GRACE family affected by COVID-19 due to non-school workplace contamination received privately donated groceries and cleaning supplies from GRACE employees and the Board of Trustees since they could not leave their home. GRACE also advocated to initiate services from a local food pantry to deliver groceries to their home in the coming weeks as they focus on healing during their self-isolation and continued stay-at-home restrictions.
- GRACE teachers and curriculum team members published a plethora of ideas and strategies to maintain motivation and interest to online learners needing the highest level of challenge and scholarship at this time of learning during COVID-19.
- Families have made cards, painted inspirational message rocks and created artwork to support shut-ins and elderly in nursing homes during this time.
- GRACE parents have found ways to support principals and teachers with messages of support, deliveries and motivational videos to show appreciation and gratitude for the extra workload to juggle professional and personal responsibilities from home.
- A GRACE principal is personally tutoring a student each day during their lunch hour, providing the student an integral step-up to stay current on assignments.
- Prayer chains are flowing and dedications to Our Mother continue to be shared as we support one another through faith.



I am incredibly proud of our entire community. We have all resigned ourselves to the situation at hand and are determined to make the most of it. As we strive to protect one another, may God’s calling continue to resonate among all of us to love wholeheartedly and sacrificially embrace His will “that you love one another; just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.”

Above all, we are accepting that not all learning happens at school. We realize the most important education begins at home as we love and care for one another.

I sincerely thank every GRACE teacher, leader, employee, family and parish as we together have mounted Continuous Learning and an approach that is a model for others. We are blessed, together, to be a part of a special family.

I wish you all health, peace and, most important, a focus on your personal faith journey that will assist you to feel sustained and nourished through this trying time. On the other side of this unique time, we will be stronger, better and more united together. #WeAreGRACEgb.

In Christ,

Kimberly A. Desotell
President, GRACE

2020 Rt. Rev. Dane Radecki, O. Praem., GRACE Leadership and Service Award

JAMES CULLEN, GRACE DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

GRACE is honored to recognize James Cullen as the 2020 recipient of the Rt. Rev. Dane Radecki, O. Praem., GRACE Leadership and Service Award, which is named after one of our esteemed former GRACE presidents. The award is presented annually to an outstanding GRACE educator who demonstrates strong leadership and commitment in education.

James joined GRACE in May 2011 as the Director of Student Services. His previous work included assisting GRACE students as a learning disabilities service provider. James oversees the implementation of services for students of need. This includes GRACE School Service Plans, Individualized Service Plans and Title allocated services, as well as other areas of assistance. In addition, he works with principals and supportive consultants in their service to students and support of staff to meet students' needs.

"I'm honored to have had the opportunity to work with and for students of need for over 25 years in both the public and parochial school settings," James said. "I believe it was my calling to join GRACE to develop diocesan, state and nationally recognized Student Services Program for our students and families."

James said he's honored to receive this year's award. "It's a very prestigious award and so many GRACE employees are deserving of the award," he said. "To be honored as a recipient makes me very thankful and proud of all the dedication displayed by our Supportive Consultant Team, principals, reading and math interventionists, staff, GRACE leadership, and all who work for and advocate for our students of need."

He also expressed gratitude for being part of an educational system that is always moving forward. "I began with GRACE when it was in its infancy, and I have always found GRACE to be very forward thinking in its leadership and service to students," he said.

James received degrees/certifications from Marian University, Silver Lake College (now Holy Family College) and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He and his wife, Judy (an elementary school teacher) have three sons: James, Cameron and Christopher.



James Cullen (middle) is pictured with Bill Micksch, GRACE Board of Trustees Chair, and Kimberly Desotell, GRACE President

Golden Apple Teacher of Distinction

MICHELLE ANDERSON, HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

GRACE kindergarten teacher Michelle Anderson of Holy Cross Catholic School is the proud recipient of a prestigious Golden Apple Teacher of Distinction honor this school year.

She was among a handful of educators to be recognized from more than 2,300 nominees throughout the region. GRACE is extremely proud of Michelle and all our teachers and staff members for maintaining high standards of professionalism, leadership and innovation.

"It is a wonderful honor to be recognized for doing well," Michelle said of the Teacher of Distinction accolade. "Having great colleagues and a caring school community is an honor I have every day."

Michelle is in her fourth year at Holy Cross and 17th year overall in kindergarten and preschool classrooms. She began teaching in 1993, having spent some time out of the classroom along the way while raising her son and working in a family business.

Michelle enjoys teaching beginning grade levels because "setting a good foundation and a love of learning is important, and I like being a part of that. The curiosity of young learners is joyful to me."

She enjoys preparing a learning environment filled with opportunities for students to discover. And that's easy to do at Holy Cross, she said, because the school provides a "welcoming, family and community atmosphere. ... The families and the faculty/staff are all on the same team, working with the best interest of the students in mind."

Michelle hails from De Pere, where she attended Dickinson Elementary School, De Pere Middle School, De Pere High School and St. Norbert College. She also has served as a catechist at Our Lady of Lourdes for the past eight years, and this past year she was a catechist for Green Bay Area Special Religious Education.

Michelle and her husband, David, have a son, James. Her grandmother was a one-room schoolteacher in the early 1900s in the same school her father attended as a child. The building stood across the street from where Michelle resides.

In her free time, Michelle enjoys playing clarinet, including summer sessions with the Green Bay City Band. She likes growing vegetables and flowers and helping raise chickens, which her son shows through the 4-H at the county fair. And she enjoys reading, watching movies and playing board games with her family.



GRACE Teacher Spotlight: Lisa Turbett

This is Lisa Turbett's first year in the GRACE school system, where she teaches third grade at Holy Family Catholic School.

Overall, she has been teaching for 32 years — previously, for 26 years as a middle school math teacher in Delavan, Wis., and for five years as a sixth-grade math/social studies teacher in Muscatine, Iowa.

Lisa said she values the opportunity to incorporate faith

into activities with her Holy Family students. And she appreciates the camaraderie among colleagues.

"What I really like is the family atmosphere," she said about Holy Family. "From the moment I walked into the school, I have felt that it was home. The staff has been so helpful with all my questions. The kids have made it so enjoyable to come to school every single day. I am so thankful for the generosity and kindness of the parents. I truly feel at home here."

Like other teachers throughout the GRACE school system — and the world — Lisa had to adjust her teaching methods over the past several weeks to fit home-based Continuous Learning in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Lisa sends daily emails to parents that include class announcements, reminders to watch Principal Steve Gromala's daily podcast and other Holy Family news. She and other teachers have a Google Doc to share with parents the lessons for that day. Each day students work on reading, English/writing, math and religion. Attached to the doc are videos for that day's lessons.

"I'm not used to taping myself and have had to overcome that fear of listening and watching myself," Lisa said. "I've never had to put all of my lessons on video. I spend quite a bit of my time answering emails from parents and looking over work that their child has shared with me."

"I think the hardest part is not being able to talk one-on-one with students on a daily basis about their work. I'm also doing weekly Google Meets with students to see how they are doing and to discuss their learning."

"Having to have everything they need to be successful has been a challenge. There is so much we say and do with our students on a daily basis, but online you really have to be more concise about what you want students to learn. ... The difficulty is that students

have so much to share and add to the learning, so it makes it more of a challenge. Students learn so much from each other, so it makes it difficult that we can't have those meaningful discussions in every subject."

Technology has been instrumental during the Continuous Learning process, she said.

"I'm so amazed at the many resources that have been made available to us, but we have had to learn all this technology quickly," she said. "I've learned a lot and have enjoyed it all. It was a little scary for us, as teachers, to figure out how we were going to make this work, but I have to give so much credit to our parents. They have done such an amazing job. None of this would have been successful without their help."

Parents take pictures of their children's work and email the images to Lisa.

"What is fun about receiving the assignments are the pictures of the kids holding their homework with big smiles on their faces," Lisa said. "I also have Google Meets set up every week so we can talk about homework or questions, or just to talk about how they are and what they have been doing at home."

Lisa looks forward to seeing her students in the classroom again on a regular basis.

"I think what I miss the most is not being able to work with the kids in person," she said. "Classrooms are not about teachers telling the kids what to do and how to learn — a lot of it comes from what the students share. They come up with great ideas to share with their classmates. It is fun to watch the 'light bulb' go on when they learn something. Watching them work together to solve a problem is another part of class that I miss. They are great teachers toward one another. They learn from each other just as much as from me. I learn a lot too."

Overall, Lisa said she feels blessed to be teaching in the GRACE school system.

"I can't picture doing anything else," she said. "I love to teach. I know that we are going through a new type of learning, but with the dedication and commitment that the teachers/staff, students and parents have, this has been a great learning experience. I am so proud of the success we have had with the Continuous Learning at home."

Lisa grew up just north of Boston in North Reading, Mass. At the age of 13, she and her family moved to Delavan, Wis. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. In her free time, she enjoys golfing, sports, crocheting, crafting and spending time with family.

GRACE Shares 'Thank You' via Video

The GRACE leadership team expressed a heartfelt "thank you" to our entire community in a video posted on the GRACE Facebook page and YouTube. The video features photos of our community during this time of Continuous Learning, as well as video clips of GRACE President Kimberly Desotell and our nine GRACE principals — Kay Franz, Sharon Gast, Steve Gromala, Molly Mares, Jeff Young, Crystal Blahnik, Drew Mulloy, Alex Wolf and Steve Kimball. To watch the video, please visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VNkqmvsoTE.



GRACE Community 5K Scheduled for Aug. 15

The second annual GRACE Community 5K Wellness Fun Run/Walk is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 15, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. Please check the GRACE website and Facebook page occasionally for status updates during the next couple of months.

The event will start and finish at Father Allouez Catholic School-Resurrection Campus, 333 Hilltop Drive, Green Bay. The non-timed route will include portions of the East River Trail. Last summer's inaugural GRACE Community 5K featured more than 250 people from all nine GRACE schools and multiple parishes.

As part of our "\$5 For Fitness," registration is just \$5 per person, which includes a T-shirt, post-race activities and a prize drawing. The event's mission is to promote a healthy and balanced mind, body and spirit, while also strengthening the GRACE community of schools and parishes. GRACE Community 5K co-chairs are Jamie Hurley, GRACE Director of Food Service, and Gerard Faller, GRACE Director of Finance and Strategic Operations.

To register for the event, please visit:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/WI/GreenBay/GRACECommunity5KWellnessFunRunWalk>.



GRACE: Gold Summer Camp Kicks Off July 6



Registration is open for the 2020 GRACE: Gold Summer Camp, which this year offers 30 different courses for students in preschool through eighth grade. Camp is scheduled

for July 6-31 and will be based at Father Allouez Catholic School-Resurrection Campus, 333 Hilltop Drive, Green Bay.

This summer enrichment program develops students academically, spiritually and socially through engaging and innovative classes taught by 15 teachers in the GRACE school system. Last year's camp drew 124 students. Now, as we prepare to enter our third year of camp, we already have 200 students signed up for this summer!

Among the new offerings this year: a middle school internship opportunity at Barkhausen Waterfowl Preserve for students interested in environmental science careers.

It is our goal to hold the camp as normal, if possible. But this hinges largely on the situation regarding the coronavirus and any government mandates that may be forthcoming. Rest assured, though, GRACE is hard at work creating a fun, innovative, faith-filled alternative to camp if it cannot be held in person. We are exploring the concept of Gold Camp Kits as well as online Discovery Time speakers that will be of strong interest to a wide range of students. Please know that additional details will be shared as they become available.

To register for the 2020 GRACE: Gold Summer Camp, please visit <https://bit.ly/2XmomJA>. Our website also features the course catalog, costs and details about the Before and After School Child Care program. Thank you to our camp sponsors, HSHS St. Vincent/St. Mary's Hospital, Notre Dame Academy, Catholic Financial Life and St. Norbert Abbey.

For more information, please contact Laura Blicharz, camp program director, at lblicharz@gracesystem.org.



GRACE 10-Year Anniversary

The GRACE school system is gearing up to celebrate its 10th Anniversary throughout the 2020-2021 school year. The year-long celebration will encompass activities and messages that:

- Celebrate the faith, stability, collaboration and success of GRACE
- Acknowledge a decade of strengthened partnerships and achievements of GRACE
- Honor the founding visionary leaders of GRACE
- Educate others about our GRACE school system

Join us in celebrating by visiting the GRACE website at www.gracesystem.org, or visit our Facebook and Instagram pages for updates in the weeks and months ahead.

GRACE ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you to our generous and faithful supporters of the GRACE Annual Appeal, which helps provide resources for programs, technology and initiatives that impact the exceptional Catholic education provided to the nearly 2,250 students in our nine GRACE schools.

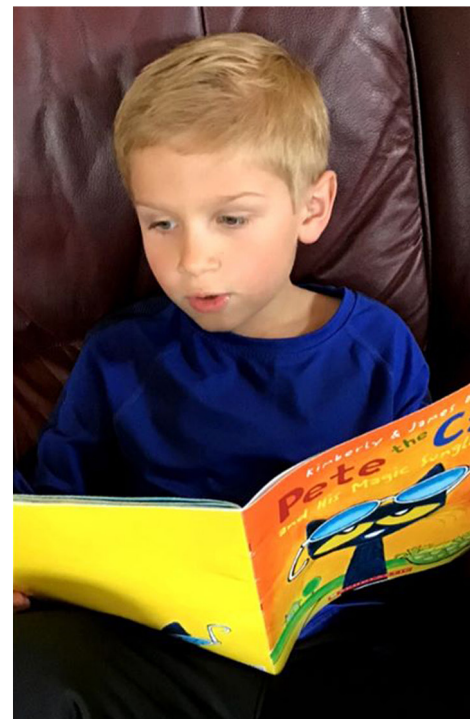
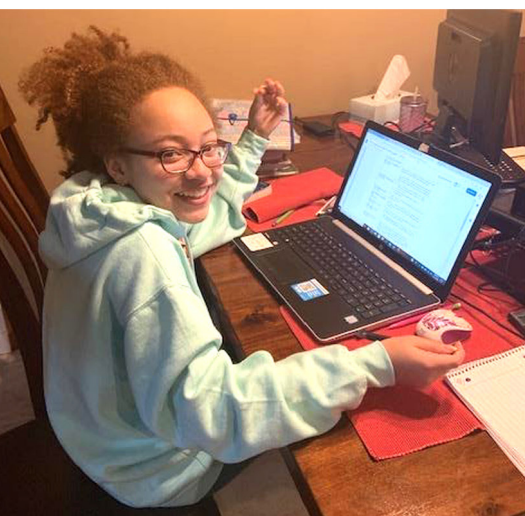
With these gifts, GRACE can continue to experience growth, foster our faith in serving others and impact outstanding educational outcomes through our work.

Please prayerfully share in our mission with your gifts to GRACE. Donations may be made online at:

www.gracesystem.org/donate

Or mailed to:

GRACE Development Office
1087 Kellogg St.
Green Bay, WI 54303



Notre Dame School of De Pere Construction Continues

Construction continues on the new Notre Dame School of De Pere, which is on track to open at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year. The building will be located on the same block as the current Notre Dame Elementary School site.

“We are greatly looking forward to beginning this next chapter in our tradition of academic excellence in Catholic education,” said Molly Mares, principal at Notre Dame of De Pere. “We know that the true success of our students and community is due to the investment of the time and talents of our staff in partnership with our families. Coupling these strengths with an inspiring, innovative facility is a huge win to continue to grow Catholic education.”

- As of last month, several notable steps are completed in the construction process, including:
- All of the concrete has been poured.
- The majority of the roof has been installed, allowing for much of the interior work to proceed.
- All stairs throughout the new school are complete.
- Windows are being installed, including the large windows on the corner of George and Superior streets.
- The brickwork is nearly finished and the outside of the building is beginning to take shape (although it won't be fully completed until the elementary school is torn down this summer).

WE ARE:
GRACE:



To see a virtual tour of the new school as well as a live video feed of the construction site, please visit:
www.notredameofdepere.com

2020-2021 ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN

Enrollment is now open for the GRACE 2020-2021 school year. The non-refundable enrollment fee is currently \$125 per family. Current GRACE families received an email from their GRACE school via TADS.com with a re-enrollment link specific to each student. This link takes GRACE families directly to the TADS enrollment website. Families must complete enrollment for each child.

Upon completion of the enrollment step, the family will be required to complete a tuition account and set up a payment plan. Completion of the process in its entirety must be done to reserve each child's seat at your GRACE school for Fall 2020.

Over the past few years, the GRACE school system has seen an increase in enrollment numbers. The 2,242 total students in preschool through eighth grade for the 2019-2020 academic year represent a 2.9 percent increase over last school year. It marks the third straight year of enrollment growth. We welcomed 2,076 students during the 2016-2017 school year; then 2,137 students in 2017-2018; and 2,179 students in 2018-2019.

For more information, please visit www.gracesystem.org/enrollment.

Testimonials

"Last week, while on spring break, our administration and staff started to prepare for learning at home for students. We were up and running two days after returning from spring break. Our teachers, not getting paid extra, and out of the goodness of their hearts, spent extra time from their own break preparing for this so students would miss minimal, if any, learning time. This all came about during our spring break so we literally started from scratch, not knowing what would happen when we all scattered for our break. Congrats to our GRACE system and St. Bernard, in particular, for being prepared to activate us so quickly. We are lucky to have such a talented and giving community that keeps us entertained, motivated and updated during this really weird time."

-GRACE parent at St. Bernard Catholic School

"In this pandemic, I believe that the teachers are doing an excellent job with adapting to this new style of school. I appreciate everything you guys are doing. All my questions get answered right away. Thank you!"

- GRACE parent at Notre Dame School of De Pere

"From what I see, you are doing a great job in such difficult circumstances. Keep it up teachers, students and parents! Your efforts honor our Lord and His Church."

- GRACE parent at Holy Family Catholic School

"I am thankful for what (St. Thomas More) school has been doing."

- GRACE parent at St. Thomas More Catholic School

"I just wanted to take a moment and express my gratitude. The way that the Father Allouez community has rallied around the students has blown me away. We were dealt some pretty crushing information and instead of being overwhelmed, the FA community took it and ran with it. Going to completely online learning is something that could take years to develop. But what did the FA teachers and staff do? They kicked it in a week! Not only that, but the teachers are striving to maintain the same quality curriculum that they would have received in the classroom. As a parent, I am thankful (my daughter) is learning the most she possibly can while still having flexibility in our schedules during this crazy time."

- GRACE parent at Father Allouez Catholic School

"I wanted to take a moment to say thank you. I know that (the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School) staff always does their absolute best to provide a high level of academic rigor. The last few weeks are a huge testament to that. Over the last week, I have spoken with friends from California, Colorado, Minnesota, Milwaukee and the Madison area. I am amazed at how well OLOL is doing offering amazing resources, constant check in, and upholding academics through this time. It is not the same everywhere. Many friends have not received any lessons or resources at all yet after some have been in quarantine for four weeks already. I am so thankful that in this time my kids will continue learning, but also, more importantly, continue feeling a part of a community."

- GRACE parent at Our Lady of Lourdes

"The staff at St. John the Baptist has gone above and beyond during this time of learning online! Thank you to each and every one of you for trying to make this not-normal situation feel normal for our son."

- GRACE parent at St. John the Baptist

"You all are doing such an amazing job, and (we) are impressed! We recognize GRACE's, teachers' and your forward thinking, jumping into action and hard work. We are feeling very blessed."

- GRACE parent at Holy Cross Catholic School

"Thanks again for helping us through this hard time, and navigating the school and teachers through this process. The weekly schedules are great! I really appreciate your efforts last week. Today so far has been way more manageable and kids are still working hard."

- GRACE parent at St. John Paul II Classical School

"My husband and I wanted to take a moment and express our appreciation for all you have been doing these past few weeks. Our kids have managed to complete their online activities completely independent of us. It's not that we won't help them; it's because they have been motivated to figure it out on their own (and sometimes even work together!). We realize that you have put in extra time communicating with them and answering any/many questions, as well as troubleshooting the issues that arose due to this new full integration of technology. The kids have really been enjoying the creative way some of you have found to have them interact with their classmates online!"

- GRACE parent at Holy Family Catholic School

The application deadline for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) has been extended to May 14, 2020 because of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. All students currently supported by the WPCP (also known as the School Voucher Program, or Choice) must reapply to remain eligible. New families also must apply and may do so during the same application period.

ELIGIBILITY

- To qualify for the program in the 2020-2021 school year, a student must have a family income equal or less than 220% of the federal poverty level income limits.
- If a family meets the eligibility requirements including established income qualifications, the following may apply:
 - ▶ Any new incoming student entering kindergarten through seventh grade
 - ▶ Currently enrolled GRACE students entering kindergarten or first grade
 - ▶ New or currently enrolled GRACE students entering into the 4-year-old preschool program at St. Thomas More Catholic School, St. Bernard Catholic School or Holy Family Catholic School.

All families, both current and new, must enroll to their GRACE school online via the TADS enrollment system. Late applications will not be accepted. A student qualifies for the WPCP on the basis of their residency and family income. For assistance, please contact Edgar Zaragoza, GRACE Outreach Administrator, at 920-499-7330, ext. 311, or ezaragoza@gracesystem.org.

Schools participating in the WPCP are required to post the State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction School Report Cards and the Educational Options for Wisconsin students on their websites. You may access the Choice Accountability Report on each school website in addition to the GRACE website at www.gracesystem.org/voucher-program.

GRACE Livestreams All School Mass

The GRACE school system held its first All School Mass on April 8 via livestream so everyone could participate at home. Resurrection Catholic Parish hosted the Mass, with Fr. Tom Reynebeau serving as the main celebrant. All nine GRACE schools were represented at Mass in a variety of ways. To see a video recording of the Mass, please visit

www.viewpure.com/gracesystemmass.



GRACE News Format

GRACE News is published three times during the academic year: Fall, Winter and Spring. Typically, the Fall and Spring newsletters are available in print and online, while the Winter newsletter is available online only. This Spring it will be available online only.

All GRACE News archives are available at www.gracesystem.org/grace-newsletter.

Looking Ahead

Check out the complete 2020-2021 academic calendar online for important dates. It is available at www.gracesystem.org/academic-calendar.

GRACE ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS

Admissions/Enrollment
graceoffice@gracesystem.org

PowerSchool
powerschool@gracesystem.org

Technology
helpdesk@gracesystem.org

Tuition/Billing Accounts
graceoffice@gracesystem.org

Other General Inquiries
graceoffice@gracesystem.org