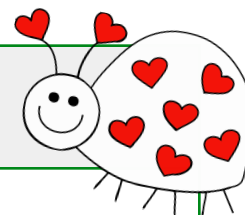




# News From the 'Woods

Worthwoods Elementary | 11000 S. Oketo, Worth, IL 60482 | [www.worthschools.org](http://www.worthschools.org)



## Important Dates

**Feb 7** – Worth BOE Mtg @ 6pm

**March Breakfast/ Lunch menus released**

**Feb 9** - Cozy Coat Drive @ WE 3:30 PM

**Feb 14** - Kids Heart Challenge & Valentine's Day

**Feb 16** - Early Release Day  
Students Dismiss @ 1:30

**Feb 17** - **March Breakfast/Lunch online orders are due**

**Feb 19** – Presidents Day Observance **NO SCHOOL**

**Feb 28** – End of 2nd Trimester

### Looking Forward:

**Mar 7** – Trimester 2 report cards go home

**Mar 13** - Worth BOE Mtg. 6PM @ Dist. Office

**April Breakfast/Lunch menus released**

**Mar 19** – Teacher Institute Day (Election Day) **NO SCHOOL for students**

**Mar 23** - **April Breakfast/Lunch online orders are due**

## A Letter from the Principal – February 2024

Dear Worthwoods Families,

We can't believe that February is already here! As quickly as it passed, January gave us a new year, a renewed sense of hope, and very cold and snowy weather. Although we're still far from Spring, February is definitely going to warm our hearts. This month brings with it many wonderful things for us to look forward to.

We started this month off with Groundhog Day! Punxsutawney Phil, the famous groundhog, did not see his shadow, predicting an early spring! Let's hope he's correct! Another exciting thing that is going on this month is our [Kids Heart Challenge](#). Students can participate in different physical fitness activities to help promote healthy choices and raise money for the American Heart Association. For all of our history fans, February is Black History Month, and it is the month we celebrate our favorite presidents. Students will have an early release day on Friday, February 16, with dismissal at 1:30, and we have Monday, February 19, off school for President's Day.

We have finished our Winter Benchmark Assessments, and we will wrap up ACCESS testing soon. The Illinois Assessment of Readiness and the Illinois Science Assessment (Grade 5) will both be administered in April.

Illinois students in grades 4-8, teachers, and parents every year complete the 5 Essentials Survey. Parents who wish to complete the survey and offer valuable feedback may do so by accessing this link, [Parent 5 Essentials Survey](#), for more information.

February is the month for love, with Valentine's Day being celebrated on the 14th. What a special day to recognize those we care for and tell them how thankful we are to have them in our lives. We want to express how grateful we are for our Worthwoods families, students, and staff. You fill our hearts with happiness, bring joy to our lives, and forever remind us that being partners in your child's education is truly a privilege. Wishing you a month filled with lots of happiness, good health, and warm hugs!

Sincerely,

Ms. Ashley Toms  
Worthwoods School Principal

Mrs. Elizabeth D'Andrea  
Worthwoods School Assistant Principal

Mar 25 - 29 – Spring Break  
**NO SCHOOL**

## Important Parent Information

### Daily Student Schedule

Grades 1-5  
8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Kindergarten  
AM: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
PM: 12:15 - 3:15 p.m.

Kindergarten students were enrolled in sessions based on availability at the time of registration.

### Phone Information

School Messenger - Worth School District uses an automated telephone system to email and call parents with important information, updates, and information regarding emergency school closings.

Calls are made to the phone number designated by the parent/legal guardian.

Please make sure the school always has your most up-to-date phone number and email.

**District Website** - [www.worthschools.org](http://www.worthschools.org)

**Worthwoods Main Office Phone** - 708-448-2802

### Attendance

Attendance will be taken at 8:30 a.m. for ALL students.

P.M. Kindergarten will take attendance at 12:15 p.m.

Please call the office to report any absences or late arrivals.

If your child is sick, please call the  
**ABSENCE HOTLINE**  
708-671-5899

The Absence Hotline answering machine is on 24 hours per day.

### Meal Ordering

Meal orders are available for grades 1-8 only. No meals will be provided for K.

If you are in need of assistance with ordering, please call the Nutrition Hotline at 708-671-3903.

Meal ordering information is now available on the district website:

<https://worthschools.org/parents/meal-program/>

### Drop-Off / Pick-Up Procedures

#### Arrival @ 8:15 - 8:30 AM

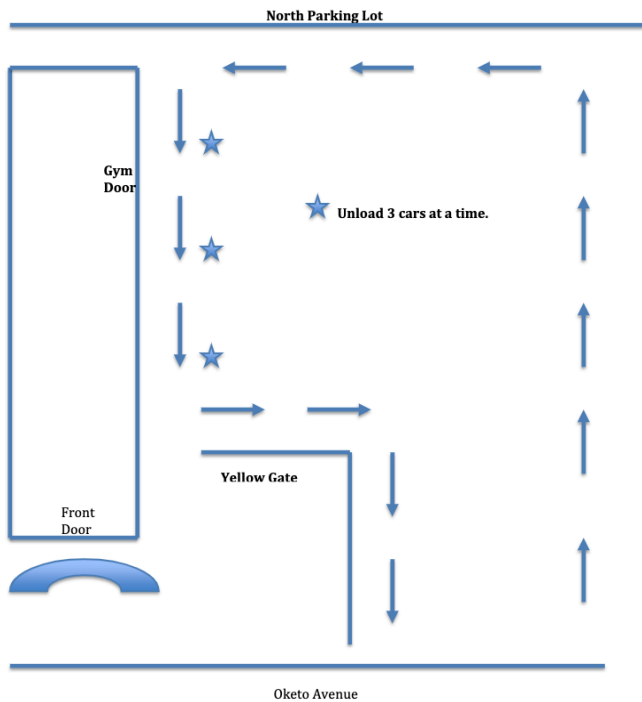
- *Grades 1-5 and AM K: Gym Doors*
- *PM K: Door 2, first door North side of the building*
- Follow the circular pattern towards the back of the north parking lot.
- All students will enter the **Gym doors** starting at

#### Dismissal @ 3:15

- *Grades K,1: Door 2, first door North side*
- *Grades 2-3: Door 3, second door North side (with ramp)*
- *Grade 4-5: Gym doors*
- Plan to arrive between 2:55 - 3:10 as we **close** the

8:15.

- Students should exit from the **passenger side** of the car only.
- Pull as far forward as possible to allow 3-4 cars to unload at one time.



parking lot at **3:12**.

- **Back into a parking spot** or line up in rows at the back of the parking lot.
- The parking lot will reopen once all children have safely cleared the area.
- Cars will be dismissed from front to back.

