



RAMS Review

MR. JASON TOOTH, PRINCIPAL | MRS. MELISSA WILLS, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

| Important Dates May/June | May/June Newsletter |
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| <p><u>May</u></p> <p>1 – Math Bowl Competition @ 9am, Prairie State College</p> <p>IPA South Cook Student Recognition Breakfast, Odyssey Country Club @ 8:00am</p> <p>5 – First Day of Teacher Appreciation Week</p> <p>7 – School Nurse Appreciation Day</p> <p>8 – Spring Band Concert, Worth Junior High School @ 6:00pm</p> <p>9 – Last Day of Teacher Appreciation Week</p> <p>10 – WJH Fishing Club @ 8-10am, Lake Katherine</p> <p>11 – Happy Mother's Day!</p> <p>14 – SSJHSC Conference Track Meet @ 10am-3pm at Shepard High School</p> | <p>Special Recognitions at WJH</p> <p>This past Wednesday, April 23rd was recognized as National Administrative Assistant Appreciation Day. We wanted to take a moment to thank our wonderful Administrative Assistants, Mrs. Castanon and Mrs. Katts, for all that they do to help our entire school community. They are always there to help support all that enter Worth Junior High School, so please take a moment to thank them the next time that you see or talk to them. In addition, May 7th is known as School Nurse Appreciation Day. We are so grateful to have Mrs. Falls at our school looking after the health of our students each day. At the end of this school year both Mrs. Castanon and Mrs. Falls will be retiring. The impact they have had on Worth Junior High School is immeasurable and we thank them for their service over their years to the Worth community!</p> <p>We want to recognize 8th graders Julissa Roman and Nicholas Madrigal for representing Worth Junior High School at the Illinois Principals Association's South Cook Student Recognition Breakfast on May 1st. These two students were nominated by their eighth grade teachers and represent The RAMS Way during their time here at Worth Junior High School. Additionally on May 1st, we wish our Math Bowl students the best as they will be competing during the day at the Math Bowl Contest at Prairie State College.</p> <p>This upcoming week, May 5th to May 9th, is National Teachers Appreciation Week. We are so appreciative for the work our staff does each day to help support and grow our students. Information was sent out to families previously with an opportunity to thank a staff member that has made a positive impact in the life of your child(ren). If you are able, please take a moment to complete that opportunity or just send a message to a staff member that you would like to recognize. Please contact Mr. Tooth if you have any questions.</p> <p>Reporting Absences through SafeArrival</p> <p>This is just a reminder that the district has moved to using the SafeArrival program to report student school absences since the beginning of April. Families have the option of reporting absences by either calling in at 855-660-0124 or through using the "School Messenger Home App" that can be found at home.schoolmessenger.com. This process allows for quicker communication to families if students are absent from school and allows us to ensure that students are safe when they are not physically present in school. We appreciate your partnership in utilizing this program.</p> |

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| <p>Worth BOE Meeting @ 6pm, Administrative Center</p> <p>15 – Mobile Dental Care Visit at Worth Junior High School @ 8:30am-2:30pm</p> <p>16 – Windy City ThunderBolts, Grades 1-8 @ 10:00am</p> <p>18 –</p> <p>19 – WJH Fishing Club @ 8-10am, Lake Katherine</p> <p>22 – 8th Grade Graduation Party at Worth Junior High School @ 3:10-5pm</p> <p>23 – Early Dismissal Day, WJH student dismissal @ 1:15pm</p> <p>5th Grade Step Up Day at Worth Junior High School @ 9:00am</p> <p>26 – Memorial Day; NO SCHOOL</p> <p>27 – 8th Grade Class trip to The Forge in Lemont from 8:30am-1:30pm</p> <p>28 – Afternoon 8th Grade Graduation Practice; Worth Junior High School</p> <p>29 – Morning Graduation Practice with <i>early 8th grade dismissal @ approximately 11:00am</i>; Worth Junior High School</p> | <p>WJH Scholastic Bowl 4th Place Winners</p> <p>Congratulations to the Worth Junior High Scholastic Bowl team for earning 4th place at the SSJHS Declamation Competition on Saturday, April 26th! We had fourteen 6th-8th grade students compete throughout the day and made it to the final four. Great job to all of our students on their preparation and to Mrs. Catt for her coaching efforts with our students!</p> <p>Windy City ThunderBolts Game</p> <p>We are excited about our upcoming all district (Grades 1st-8th) field trip to the Windy City ThunderBolts game in Crestwood on Friday, May 16th. This is just a reminder that the permission slip and payment is due in the main office by Friday, May 2nd. Students can either indicate that they would like a school provided lunch or bring their own lunch (clearly labeled with their name on it) on the day of the game. If students do not attend the game, they are expected to attend school that day. We are looking forward to this exciting opportunity for our school community. However, please keep in mind that students who do not demonstrate the RAMS Way appropriate behaviors during the days leading up to May 16th may be ineligible to participate. More details to come as we get closer to the game and please contact Mr. Tooth if you have any questions.</p> <p>Chicago Bears Flag Football Camp</p> <p>We are excited to announce that we have been chosen by the Chicago Bears to host a flag football camp for our students on Tuesday, June 3rd from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., which also happens to be the last day of school. Families will be receiving waivers in the coming week to give permission for their child(ren) to participate in the event. Students that are participating will also be receiving a free t-shirt from the Chicago Bears by completing the Google form that can found on the Principal's Page on Google classroom to indicate their size. This event will be open to our 6th and 7th grade students, as our 8th grade students will have already completed graduation.</p> <p>Construction Update</p> <p>We are excited about the progress of our construction project and appreciate everyone's patience during this time. The final phase of the project is expected to conclude before the beginning of the school year in August 2025. Previously our third floor science laboratories and bathrooms have been updated over the previous summer. The final phase completion will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New library media center • New makerspace for STEM classes • Four breakout rooms for small group instruction • New art room located on the first floor • Conference room • Dedicated office for our Special Education teachers on the second floor <p>8th Grade Events</p> <p>As we are entering the final months of the school year, just an update on a few end of the year events for our 8th grade students. Families will be receiving more details about the below events soon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 22nd - 8th grade Graduation Party • May 27th - 8th grade class trip to The Forge • May 28th - 8th grade Graduation Awards Assembly (<i>more information to come</i>) |
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8th Grade Graduation Ceremony @ 7pm in Worth Junior High School Gymnasium

31 – WJH Fishing Club @ 8-10am, Lake Katherine

June

2 – RAMS Fest, Worth Junior High School @ 8:15am-3:00pm

3 – Chicago Bears Flag Football Camp, Worth Junior High School @ 9:30-11:00am

Last Day of School, Early Dismissal @ 11:15am

14 – WJH Fishing Club @ 8-10am, Lake Katherine

15 – Happy Father's Day!

- May 29th - 8th grade Graduation Night (*last day of school for 8th grade students*)

WJH RAMS Athletics

The WJH Track and Field team have concluded their regular season meets with our Rams having a good showing. With our weather being so unpredictable, we greatly appreciate everyone's flexibility as our teams try to get in as many practices and meets this upcoming season. We want to wish our young Rams good luck as they prepare for the SSJHSC Conference Meet on Wednesday, May 14th!

School Attendance Matters Updates

Thank you families for your partnership in getting your child to school each day! Having their arrival at school when doors open at 8:00 a.m. will set a positive tone for a great start to the school day. Chronic absenteeism is defined as students missing 10% of the school year for **any reason** (excused or unexcused), which is equivalent to 18 days.

Our goal for this school year has been to decrease our chronic absenteeism of 36% during the 2023-2024 school year to 26% for the 2024-2025 school year. It will continue to be our school's goal to improve our attendance rate for the upcoming school year by working with families on the importance of students being here each day they are not ill. We ask over the summer to please consider planning any appointments or travel plans around student holidays. We appreciate your partnership in helping encourage your child to be at school each day.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10%, or 2 days a month, over the course of the school year, can affect a student's academic success.

Remaining Early Dismissal

Our last early dismissal days will be on Friday, May 24. Just as a reminder that these days provide our staff the opportunity for Professional Development and School Improvement. Worth Junior High students are dismissed at 1:15 p.m. and will have an earlier lunch each of those days.

Advisory Update

This month our students will continue our reading of our all-school book read *And Then, Boom!* authored by Lisa Fipps. The novel is focused around how the main character manages difficult situations and looks to persevere. We are looking forward to this opportunity for our school community to engage in reading together!.

Our staff continues to educate our students in advisory about Digital Citizenship to grow their mindset as they each become safer and more responsible digital citizens in our world. This includes how students interact with one another online and how those choices can have a serious impact on our whole-school community. We will be continuing to explore the digital platform Xello during both advisory and the STEM class. Just a reminder, Xello is a digital career exploration program in which students learn about

potential careers based on their interests and understand different pathways related to various careers.

Feel free to contact Mrs. Wills or Mr. Tooth if you have any questions about our Advisory programming.

Sincerely,



Mr. Jason Tooth
Principal, Worth Junior High



Mrs. Melissa Wills
Assistant Principal, Worth Junior High

Daily Student Schedule

Breakfast

8:05 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.

Grades 6-8 Classes

8:15 a.m. - 3:05 p.m.

A Note About Absences...

If your child will not be at school for any reason, please call school to let us know. You can call the absentee hotline at **708-671-3999**, 24 hours a day and leave a message. You can also contact our main office at **708-448-2803**.

We appreciate your partnership in educating students and keeping them safe!