





News From the 'Woods

Worthwoods Elementary | 11000 S. Oketo, Worth, IL 60482 | www.worthschools.org



Important Dates	A Letter from the Principal – January 2024
<p>January</p> <p>Jan 8 – Winter Break Ends, School Resumes</p> <p>Fastbridge Window opens</p> <p>Jan 10 – Worth BOE Mtg @ 6pm</p> <p>February Breakfast/ Lunch menus released</p> <p>Jan 15 – MLK Observance - NO SCHOOL</p> <p>Jan 10 – Trimester II Midpoint</p> <p>Jan 17 - ACCESS Testing Window opens (ML Students)</p> <p>January 19 -</p> <p>February Breakfast /Lunch online orders are due</p> <p>Jan 22 – 5 Essentials Survey Window opens Erin's Law Virtual Parent Presentation @ 5:30 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81951144868 Meeting ID: 819 5114 4868</p> <p>Jan 29 – Erin's Law Student Presentations</p>	<p>Dear Worthwoods Families,</p> <p>Happy 2024: Happy New Year! As we look to the new year ahead, it's important to take a minute to reflect upon the year that just passed. 2023 was a successful year, bringing about many challenges, opportunities to grow, and exciting changes. One exciting event that happened in 2023 was the birth of Mrs. Toms-Bonstetter's baby! Baby Lucia was born on December 31, 2023. Mom and baby are doing great! Mrs. D'Andrea will be filling in for Mrs. Toms while she is enjoying time with her baby.</p> <p>January Happenings: January also gives us an opportunity to create new intentions and goals for this upcoming year. We kicked off our back-to-school week with an all-school assembly to review our PAWS Universal Expectations. We reviewed what it takes to be a Worthwoods Wildcat, how students earn PAWS, and expected behavior in the lunchroom, hallway, and in classrooms. We also talked about working hard and being our best selves daily. Our focus for this month is on resilience. Resilience is the ability to cope with and bounce back from hard things. As we move forward with this month, we will continue to focus on building resilience with our students. We will discuss this with each class and conclude our month with an assembly to recognize students for their "pawsitive" contributions to our school community during January. This month, we also observe Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 15th. ACCESS testing begins this month, and our 4th and 5th-grade students will continue participating in Choir and Morning Fitness Club! We will also kick off our Kids Heart Challenge Fundraiser, which will conclude on Valentine's Day!</p> <p>Erin's Law: In compliance with Erin's Law, which aims to prevent child assault and abuse, Worth School District 127 has partnered with Childhood Victories to provide our student and parent presentations. All Worth School District 127 parents are invited to attend a Virtual Parent Information Night via Zoom on Monday, January 22, 2024, at 5:30 pm. A link to the presentations will be posted on the district website and shared via School Messenger. Childhood Victories will livestream the grade-level presentations on Monday, January 29, 2024. Students will be watching the presentation in their classroom with their teacher. Illinois law allows parents to opt their children out from participating in an Erin's Law presentation. The Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Linda Esposito, will send a parent letter, including opt-out information, on January 15, 2024. We look forward to seeing you at the Parent Zoom.</p> <p>Winter Months: During these winter months, please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. Students will continue to go outside for recess during the winter, weather permitting, so they must wear hats, coats, gloves, and scarves. Students who wear snow boots to school change their shoes upon arrival.</p>

<p><u>Looking Forward:</u> February</p> <p>Feb 6-7: Kindergarten Registration @ District Office (by appointment only)</p> <p>Feb 7 – Worth BOE Mtg @ 6pm</p> <p>March Breakfast/ Lunch menus released</p> <p>Feb 16 - Early Release Day Students dismiss @ 1:30</p> <p>March Breakfast/Lunch online orders are due</p> <p>Feb 19 – President’s Day Observance NO SCHOOL</p> <p>Feb 28 – End of 2nd Trimester</p>	<p><u>PE Safety:</u> Students attend PE class every day and must wear appropriate shoes to participate. Crocs are not safe footwear for PE class. If your child wears boots to school, please be sure that your child has gym shoes for PE.</p> <p>We thank you for your continued support and dedication to our school community and would like to wish everyone a very safe, healthy, and happy 2024! We look forward to creating positive learning experiences and making lasting memories for your students.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Mrs. Ashley Toms Bonnstetter Worthwoods School Principal</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Mrs. Elizabeth D'Andrea Worthwoods School Assistant Principal</p> </div> </div>
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Important Parent Information	
<p style="text-align: center;">Daily Student Schedule</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Grades 1-5 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kindergarten AM: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. PM: 12:15 - 3:15 p.m.</p> <p>Kindergarten students were enrolled in sessions based on availability at the time of registration.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Phone Information</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Calls are made to the phone number designated by the parent/legal guardian.</p> <p>Please make sure the school always has your most up-to-date phone number and email.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">District Website - www.worthschools.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worthwoods Main Office Phone - 708-448-2802</p>
Attendance	Meal Ordering

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 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.

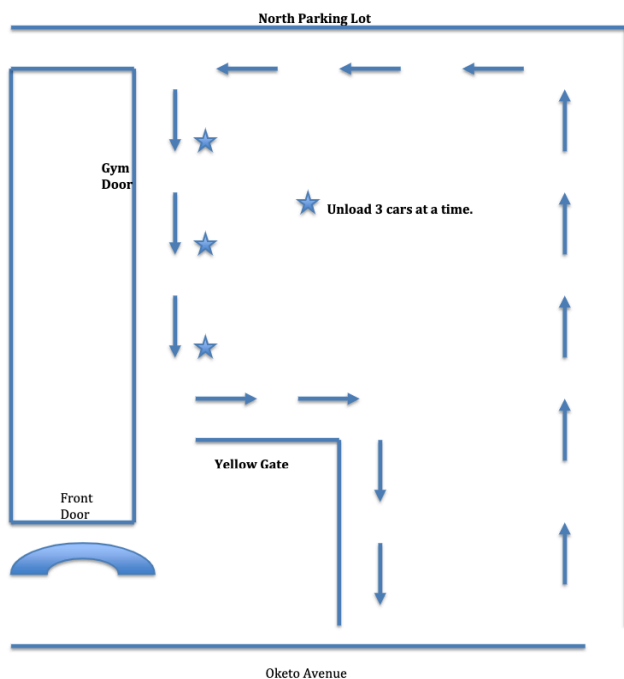
Meal ordering information is now available on the district website:

<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 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.
- If your child needs assistance to exit the vehicle, please park your car in the lot and help your student out of the car.



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 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.

