

WORTHINGTON PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FIRST GRADE

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Worthington Park Elementary
500 Park Road
Westerville, OH 43081
614.450.5500

www.worthington.k12.oh.us

Information & Communication

- Take Home Folders
 - These will come home daily–please check and empty every night when your child gets home from school.
 - You will see class assignments, as well as important information from the school.
- Weekly Newsletter
 - This will be sent to you at the end of every week via email or with a physical copy in your child's take-home folder.
 - Please read this for any important dates, classroom reminders, and to stay informed on your child's learning!
- Student Updates
 - If there is an academic or behavioral update that requires a family check-in, I will reach out personally via email or phone based on your preference indicated at the beginning of the school year.
- My Teacher Website
 - This is a quick way to find our curriculum information, daily schedule, district calendar, and more.
- School Website
 - <https://park.worthington.k12.oh.us/>
 - Access all new building info including lunch menus, PTA updates, library access, and more.
- Infinite Campus
 - Report Cards are available here at the end of each trimester
 - Student information including field trip permission slips, medical and educational records, and approved adults for student pick up. Please make sure to update your student(s) information on Infinite Campus as soon as possible! This information is crucial for your student(s) safety!

Attendance

- Consistent attendance is crucial for your child's educational and developmental success–please be on time to school each day.
- However, if your child is not feeling healthy, it is important you keep your child home. We have many children in our classroom and we try to limit the spread of germs as much as possible.
 - Please notify the school in the morning via phone call or email.
 - 614-450-5500
 - jbuckingham@wscloud.org
- We understand that family commitments happen and you may have to take your child out of school for days at a time. However, we strongly urge you to consider the importance of each day that we have your child in school and what it means to their education. Extended vacation forms are available through the office.

Arrival & Dismissal

- Students are able to come into the building at 7:25. The tardy bell will ring at 7:40.
 - We begin our learning at 7:40. It is extremely important your child is here early enough to come in, unpack, make their lunch choice, (eat breakfast if necessary) and be in their seat ready to learn by 7:40.
 - Anyone who comes into the classroom after the 7:40 bell will be considered tardy and will need to go to the office and check in.
- If your child arrives at school late or is getting picked up early, they must be signed in/out of the office by an adult.
 - If you are planning to pick your child up early, it must be before 2:00.
- If your child is going home a different way than normal, you must send a note in with your student or call the school office at 614-450-5500.
 - Please do not email the schedule change as we might not have the ability to check our email during the day.

Food

- Breakfast is available each morning for \$1.60
- Lunch (two choices) is available each day for \$2.75
 - Milk can be purchased for \$0.50
- Lunch money can be added to www.MyPaymentsPlus.com. (Free and reduced lunch available)
- We DO NOT have a designated snack time in first grade. Please make sure that your child is either eating breakfast at home or at school to ensure they are ready to learn.
- REMINDER: WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL. This includes granola bars with nuts, peanut butter, Nutella, almond butter, etc.

Birthday Celebrations

- If you would like to send in a **non-edible treat** to celebrate your child's birthday, just let your child's teacher know a few days ahead of time. **Please send in enough for every child in the class.**
- Birthday party invitations may only be handed out at school as long as you are inviting the whole class. If your child does not wish to invite the whole class, we just ask that you pass invitations out from home.

Family Involvement

- We have a variety of events we will be needing help with, including special projects and field trips. When these take place we will be reaching out to anyone that is available to help—stay tuned!
- If you would like to sign up to volunteer in the classroom, or are planning on volunteering on school field trips, you need to go to the Worthington Board of Education office at 200 E. Wilson Bridge Road to get a picture ID and a background

check. This is a district requirement and mandatory for all parent volunteers and chaperones.

Safety

- Keeping your kids safe at school is our top priority!
- There are various drills we practice throughout the year:
 - Fire
 - Tornado
 - Lockout
 - Lockdown
 - Evacuate to Rally Points
- Importance of Drills
 - Please help your child understand the importance of these drills and how they are designed to help us be safe.
 - Look out for more information about safety processes and timelines from Mr. Garrity.

Technology

- Hello ID
 - This is the app website you need to use to access ALL school websites
 - You can also access this at home—your student's Username and Password will be provided by their teacher.
- MAP TESTING
 - This is an online test for both reading and math to track student progress.
 - These take place in the Fall, Winter, and Spring.

Additional “Homework” Practice

- We do not have mandatory homework in first grade.
 - If there is a skill we think would be beneficial to practice at home for your specific student, we may send that home on an individual basis.
- If you are looking for something to do, great options are logging on to STMath or Bookflix at home through HelloID.
- If you are interested in additional math or reading practice, reach out to your teacher. We will provide resources for you!

Best Ways to Help at Home

- Have high expectations for your child, and hold them accountable. They may be little but they are capable of AMAZING things!
- Encourage your child to read EVERY day.
 - Snuggle up close with a book – talk about the pictures in books and ask questions.
 - Share different kinds of books and read with expression.
 - Read favorite books again and again and talk about why it is a favorite.

- Visit the public library and stock up on books.
 - Record yourself reading and play it on car trips or as an alternative to television.
- Establish an after-school routine to provide structure and consistent expectations.
 - Routines for when and how to complete reading homework at night
 - Bedtime routines for chores, and wind-down time to promote readiness for the next school day.
- Practice identifying upper and lower case letters, producing and identifying letter sounds, and trick words.
- Practice identifying numbers 1 -120, writing numerals, and counting by ones and tens to 100.
- Practice writing first & last name, tying shoes, zipping and unzipping jackets, using scissors.
- Have your child help make the grocery lists, measure for cooking, etc. Involve them in learning throughout your daily life!
- Listen to music, move to and clap with the beat of the music.
- Take time to talk with your child everyday and show interest in what your child has to say.
- Provide daily opportunities for your child to write and draw with different instruments. (crayons, pencils, markers, pens and paintbrushes)
- Find a sport or hobby they are interested in, allow them to do this daily or weekly!
 - See what programs are available within Worthington to allow your child to socialize with other students their age

First Grade Schedule

7:25-7:40 Arrival

7:40-7:55 Morning Meeting

7:55-8:20 Science/Social Studies

8:20-8:50 Shark Block

8:50-10:00 ELA: Skills

10:00-11:00 ELA: Knowledge

11:00-11:25 Recess

11:25-11:50 Lunch

11:50-12:10 Calendar and Number Talk

12:10-12:55 Related Arts

12:55-1:25 Shark Block

1:25-2:00 Math

2:00-2:20 Pack Up

2:25 Dismissal