

# WORDEN ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

## OCTOBER 2019

### From the Principal

Happy October! The school year is off to a great start. The staff and students are working hard and enjoying the activities at Worden Elementary. As we move into the second half of the first quarter, there are a few safety areas I need to review.

1. Food at Holiday Parties and Birthday Celebrations in District 7. We work hard to ensure that our students' minds and bodies are ready for learning each day. As you know, District 7 wants every child to be safe at school including our children with severe food allergies. In District 7, we have a number of students with life-threatening health conditions that prevent them from being able to participate in celebrations that involve certain food items. In order to safely include all students, District 7 will no longer allow any food items to be brought in for birthday and holiday parties in the classrooms. There may be occasions where your child has earned rewards within the classroom and you may send in a snack item for your child. This should be for your child ONLY and follow guidelines for your child's classroom in terms of allergen free choices. This also includes bringing in a special lunch for your child. You may continue to bring in a special lunch to share with your child; we just ask that you provide food only for your child and yourself. Food brought in will not be allowed to be shared with classmates. As educators, caregivers, and loved ones, we all want the best for our children. Thank you for joining us in giving students healthy and safe opportunities to celebrate.
2. Please remember that students are to be dropped off in the designated area before school. You may pull into the drive by the marquee, proceed to the door by the flagpole and drop your child off with supervisors who will be available at 8:45. **Students should not be dropped off in the bus lane or on the street at the front of the building.** This lane is for buses only and it is not safe for children to cross this lane when dropped off at the street. Similarly, students who are picked up after school will be at the door by the flagpole with supervisors. You should pull up in order of arrival and supervisors will assist in loading the children. This process has been taking 5-7 minutes after the final bell. It is working well and quickly.
3. We appreciate all the volunteers who have helped us get off to such a successful start of the school year. Your volunteer efforts are welcomed and encouraged. There are procedures in place, district wide, to improve safety and security for our children. We will ask volunteers to fill out a Volunteer Information Form and

a Waiver, Release and Hold Harmless Agreement. These can be obtained from the office.

4. Please remember to inform the office if your child will be picked up by any other means than normal. The preferred method is to send a note to school with your child. **If circumstances dictate the need to call the office and get a message to your child, we ask that you call by 3:00 pm.** Last minute phone calls to the office may make it very difficult to get the message to the child. For example, during good weather, many teachers give the children some free time on the playground at the end of the day, which makes it difficult to physically get to the child, find the child on the playground, and ensure they understand the change in transportation before dismissal. Thank you for your help in these matters. District #7 is committed to providing a safe environment for its students and staff.

### Calendar of Events

#### **October**

- 4th – Teacher Institute Day- No Student Attendance
- 8<sup>th</sup> – 5:30- PTO Meeting
- 9th – 3:30 – 4:30 - Math Club
- 10th - 8:45 am- Community Service Club Meeting
- 11th – 12:15 pm Student Dismissal –Teacher In Service in the Afternoon /End of First Quarter
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Columbus Day Observance – **No School**
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Report Cards available on Tigerview
- 20th- 4:00-6:00 pm - Worden Fall Festival at Boonies Farm (Formerly Rhodes Farms)
- 23<sup>rd</sup>- **Full day Students Attendance-5:30-8:30pm-** ½ day Parent/Teacher Conference.
- 24<sup>th</sup> – **No Students Attendance-** 1:00- 7:30 pm Parent/Teacher Conference
- 25<sup>th</sup> – **No Student Attendance-** 8:00am – Noon -Parent/Teacher
- 31<sup>st</sup> – 2:30 – Halloween Parade & Parties

#### **November**

- 7th – Picture Retakes
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Progress Report available on Tigerview
- 11th – Veterans' Day Observance – **NO SCHOOL**
- 13<sup>th</sup> - 3:30- 4:30pm - Math Club
- 14<sup>th</sup> – CSC meeting @ 8:45
- 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Break

#### **Word of the Month – COOPERATION**

Working together to accomplish a task.

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### Family Fun Festival/ PTO Information

\*Worden Family Fall Festival will be at Boonies Farm (formerly Rhodes Farms) on October 20<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm. PTO will provide hotdogs, chips & drinks. Wristbands are \$8.00 per person. Tickets are available at the door. This is a WHOLE family event. Kids under 2 are free. Come enjoy the corn maze, jumping pillow, zip line, hayrides and much more. Take a wagon ride and grab a pumpkin while you are there.

\*PTO is still seeking classroom Party Organizers for the following teachers:

Mrs. Ogden- December and Valentine's Day

Mrs. Feco- Valentine's Day

Mrs. Gurley- Halloween

Mrs. Hosto-December

Mrs. Emerick- December and Valentine's Day

Mrs. Weber- Halloween, December and Valentine's Day

If you are able to volunteer to organize one or more of these, please contact: [ptoworden@gmail.com](mailto:ptoworden@gmail.com)

### Picture Retakes

November 7<sup>th</sup> will be picture retake day. If your child was absent, please send in the order form. If you purchased a packet and want retakes, please return the picture packet on retake day. Thank You.

### Halloween Parties & Parade – October 31<sup>st</sup>

Halloween is a great time to be a kid, dressing up in costumes and going trick or treating—what could be better? The room parents are planning terrific parties for our students. We will have a parade at 2:30 prior to the classroom parties. Parents will be permitted to go to the classrooms at 2:00 to help children dress for the party. We would like students to follow the guidelines listed below concerning costumes.

1. Students may **not** wear their costumes to school. Time will be allowed before the parade for students to change clothes.
2. In keeping with our nonviolent environment, please do not include costumes with blood or toy weapons, such as guns, knives, or swords.
3. Face makeup and hair paint are acceptable, however we ask that it be applied immediately before the festivities rather than worn to

school. Due to health considerations, please supply make-up and hair paint for your own child only.

**Students will not be permitted to share.**

### Community Service Club News

Community Service Club will be starting in October. Four students from each class have been selected to be part of the club that meets once a month before school at 8:45 am in Mrs. Feco's class. If your child was not selected, we still need your help. This year Worden School will continue our recycling efforts. We will be collecting the following items for the 2019-2020 school year:

### \*Unwanted Shoes

Our goal this school year is to collect 500 pairs of shoes. Please help us reach that goal. If we are able to reach our goal, we will have a school wide reward party!

### \*Tab Tops

Each quarter a popcorn/movie party will be awarded to the classroom that has collected the most tab tops!!!

### \*Milk Jug Lids (Prairie Farms)

Each time a Prairie Farms milk jug is recycled at your house, please send the lid to school with your child.

### \*Coca - Cola Products Lids/ Flaps

We are still collecting codes from Coca Cola products. Please send the soda caps and end flaps from the cardboard packages. The funds will go to Relay for Life.

### Flip-Flops

Flip-flops are often not the best choice for footwear at school due to the high activity level during the school day. We have many more accidents on the playground and on the stairs when students wear flip-flops. If your child does wear flip-flops to school, please put an extra pair in their book bag. Many of the flip flops break and they cannot be fixed. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

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### **Go Math News:**

#### **Math and Science News- Have you accessed our Digital Content help?**

Home math and science help is available to all families! Just follow the steps below to find lessons, work pages, short videos for your child to use at home when questions arise. Check it out!

**Step 1:** Using your Chrome Browser, go to the District 7 Clever Portal at:

<https://clever.com/in/ecusd7>

You can also use the link on the District 7 website at:

<http://ecusd7.org/parents/digital-resources-asp/>

**Step 2:** Choose Login with Active Directory

**Step 3:** Login with your child's unique District 7 username and password

Username: district\username

Password: District 7 network password

**Step 4:** You should now be on the Clever home screen, which will allow you to choose the content you are interested in viewing. Math- Think Central,

**Science-** NGL Sync (MindTap), and  
Keyboarding- Typing.com

\*\* This is the same username and password that students and teacher use to login to any District 7 computer. However, you **MUST** have **district\** before your username or it *will not work*\*\*