

# WILDCAT PRESS

January 17<sup>th</sup>

## WORTHINGTON CALENDAR

[Subscribe to the HCPSS calendar](#)

[Worthington Fridge Sheet-A quick glance at the 24/25 SY](#)

January

20: Schools & Offices Closed ~ MLK Jr Day

21: In School Band/Strings Concert

22: Rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade Parent Orientation at Ellicott Mills MS

23: End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Marking Period

3 hr Early Dismissal ~ *WoES will dismiss at 12:55 pm*

Conference Scheduling Opens for Parents

Band & Strings Concert 7 pm at Howard High School

24: Spelling Bee

27-28: Grade 3 Math MAP Testing (afternoon)

29: Schools Closed ~ *Professional Work Day*

30-31: Grade 4 Math MAP Testing (*morning*)

31: Grade 2 Math MAP Testing (*afternoon*)

Conference Scheduling Window Closes at 4 pm

## FROM THE PTA

PTA Meeting - Next Week, Tuesday, Jan 21, 7:00pm

We would love to see more parents and staff at our next PTA meeting, on Tuesday, Dec 17. We will discuss upcoming events and hear from staff. You can join us in the comfort of your home over Zoom: [Join the Meeting!](#)

### Winter Wonderland Dance - Friday, January 31

Come dance the night away at this year's Worthington Winter Wonderland Dance! Join us on Friday, 31 January at Worthington Elementary from 6:30pm-8:30pm for some good tunes and fun times. Come dressed to impress. Light refreshments will be provided! Get your tickets here!

<https://worthingtonespta.givebacks.com/w/winterwonderlanddance>

We're also looking for a few more volunteers to make this night extra special! Take a look here to see how you can help!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A49ABAE2AA5F49-53916803-worthington#/>

### National Blue Ribbon Wildcat Blankets for Sale

Now, you may be thinking you have enough blankets... but these represent our wonderful Blue Ribbon school! We have heard nothing but praise on how wonderful these are by people who purchased them already. Plus, for each purchase, you will be supporting the PTA as some money comes back to us so it's a win-win! Show off your Worthington pride and pick one up today!

Note: we will have these for sale at the Winter Dance if you want to pay by cash or check. In addition, you can always drop off a check or cash to the front office.

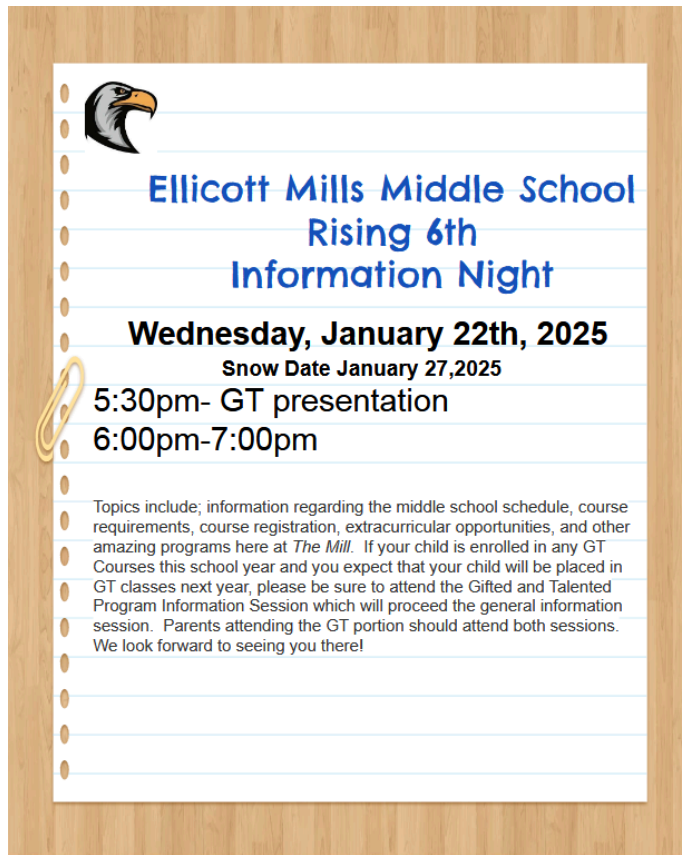
<https://worthingtonespta.givebacks.com/store>

### PTA Family Bingo Night Recap

Thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy a wonderful night of Bingo with the WoES PTA and congratulations to all our winners. Also thank you to all our volunteers who made this such a success! We will report on final fundraising numbers from this event at the PTA meeting this upcoming Tuesday night over Zoom, we welcome all to join us.

**INSIDER INFORMATION**

## Rising 6th Grade Information Night ~ Wednesday 1/22 6 pm



Order your Yearbook!

<https://shop.yearbookmarket.com/worthingtonelementary>

\$20.00

Last day to order: 4/16/2025

## HCPSS NEWS

### 2025 Summer Programs Registration

Online enrollment requests for [2025 Summer Programs](#) will be open in HCPSS Connect Synergy Monday, Feb. 3 at 12 p.m. through Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 12 p.m. Requests for registration-based programs can be made by a parent, guardian, school counselor or achievement liaison. Parents/guardians will be notified via email of enrollment status

(enrolled or waitlisted) prior to the next registration window, which opens Monday, March 3 at 12 p.m.

### Road to Kindergarten Workshops Begin Jan. 21, 2025

Save the date! HCPSS' [Road to Kindergarten workshops](#) begin Jan. 21, with additional sessions available through the end of the month. Each workshop will provide information on expectations for school readiness, the HCPSS kindergarten program, and more. Childcare will be available for children ages 2 and older. No registration is required, but attendees are encouraged to allow ample time for parking, childcare drop off, and check in.

### Understanding Early Intervention Services & Child Development

Monday, January 13, 2025 6:00 p.m.

Free Virtual Event

Concerned about your child's development? Research shows 68% of 3rd graders who received early intervention services no longer need special education. Learn how to request developmental testing through the Infants and Toddlers and Child Find Programs. Discover the significant benefits of early intervention and other valuable community resources to support your child's growth. For families of children ages birth to five. [Visit registration page.](#) Sponsored by Howard County Office of Children and Families

### Family Support Center

Assists families in advocating for their child with a disability.

Services include:

- Workshops for parents and caregivers
- Guidance in the IEP/IFSP process
- Lending library including disability and special education related books and DVDs
- Facilitation of parent groups
- Weekly emails with upcoming events for you and your student
- Service, community and recreational resources to support the specific needs of your family

Contact [FSRC@hcpss.org](mailto:FSRC@hcpss.org)

# COMMUNITY

## Winter 2025 Howard County Recreation & Parks Before & After school classes

Available activities for students at Worthington ES can be found here: [Winter Rec & Park Classes](#). These classes provide fun, structured, educational, and enriching activities for students, benefiting both the child(ren) and parents! Registration: [HCRP Registration](#)

## Whiz Kid Academy's After-school STEM program

The program offers engaging, hands-on STEM experiences for students in grades K-2. Class will begin on January 28<sup>th</sup> and run for six weeks from 4-5 pm. The cost is \$125. Parents can register here:

[https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/howardcounty/activity/search/detail/145684?onlineSiteId=0&from\\_original\\_cui=true](https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/howardcounty/activity/search/detail/145684?onlineSiteId=0&from_original_cui=true)

## Save the Date and Register for the MLK Day of Service!

Join us for the 11<sup>th</sup> annual MLK Jr. Day of Service on Monday, January 20, 2025, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM at Glen Mar Church. This event offers service opportunities for all ages—grandparents, parents, young adults, and children. Planned activities: Packaging 60,000 meals; Sewing pillowcases; Decorating cookies; Making 'no-sew' fleece hats and blankets; Writing letters to seniors and veterans; Collecting non-perishable food and gently used clothing. Additional Details: Service Hour forms are available for students. Enjoy a free lunch featuring chili and grilled cheese sandwiches. To register or find the latest event updates, visit [glenmarumc.org/events/day-of-service/](http://glenmarumc.org/events/day-of-service/). If you have any questions, email us at [DayofService@glenmarumc.org](mailto:DayofService@glenmarumc.org).

## Free Life Skills Classes for HoCo Middle/High School Students

- Classes will be taught by HoCo college students with high school student assistants and adult supervision. Botvin's Evidence Based Curriculum promotes positive health and personal development for students in grades 6 to 9. (Slightly younger students will be considered especially if joining an older sibling, and students older than 9th grade may be invited to join our high school team to earn Community Service Hours while learning.) If parents/guardians have questions about the appropriateness for students, register the students and HC DrugFree's

team will contact you. **Siblings and friends are encouraged to take these classes together.**

- Class dates: **February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 31, April 7, 28, and May 5 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. on Zoom.** Visit HC DrugFree's website for more information and register students at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Spring2025LifeSkills>
- **HoCo High School Student Leadership Opportunity to Earn Community Service Hours:** Join HC DrugFree's instructional team to assist college students teaching online Life Skills classes – all while serving as a role model and mentor to younger HoCo students. This leadership experience looks good on resumes and college applications. For more information and to register to volunteer, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AssistLS2025spring>

#### Free Parenting/Grandparenting Classes

- Free! On Zoom and open to parents, guardians and grandparents residing in HoCo or with school-age children/grandchildren residing in HoCo. This evidence-based, interactive prevention program provides families with the skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs including alcohol or engage in other dangerous behaviors. The curriculum was written for families with children 9-14 years olds, but we believe it is appropriate for K-12 families. Class dates: **March 18, 21, 25, 28 and April 1 from Noon to 1:30 p.m. on Zoom.** Visit HC DrugFree's website for more information and register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Spring2025GGC>