



Welcome!

We are thrilled to welcome your family to our wonderful school, Tokeneke Elementary! Contained in this document are helpful tips on navigating the school year.

Our principal, Ryan Betts along with our TPTO Co-Chairs Griffin Marr and Jessica Murphy will host a welcome coffee in the common room at Tokeneke on **Friday, August 30th from 9-9:45am for 1st-5th Grade parents** to learn helpful information regarding the school year.

First Day Info! 🏠

The first day of school for students in **Grades 1st-5th** begins at 8:25 on **Wednesday, August 28th**. A typical day for K-5 students, begins at 8:25 and ends at 2:55.

On **Wednesday, August 28th, Kindergarten** students will have a special "Meet Your Teacher" and visit the classroom morning while parents attend a school orientation.

Timing is as follows:

- 8:40-9:25: Last names that begin with A-L
- 9:30-10:15: Last names that begin with M-Z

While your child is meeting their teacher, you are invited to an informational presentation with Mr. Betts and the Tokeneke PTO in the common room.

***For K students, the first full day of school is Thursday, August 29th.**

Important Upcoming Dates 🗓️

9/6 - Tokeneke PTO Fair (+ meet our Vice Principals) 9-10am in the Tokeneke Common Room

9/22 – Back to School Bash 2:00-4:00pm on the Playground

9/12 - Picture Day

9/12 - Open House . Stay tuned for Open House information from Principal Betts

Calendars 📅

[Calendar | Tokeneke PTO](#)

[2024-2025 Darien School District Calendar](#)

[2024-2025 Elementary 6 Day Calendar](#)

New School Year Checklist! ✓

Subscribe to the Tokeneke School newsletter 📄

“The Wire” is our VERY informative weekly school newsletter. The answer to most questions is “Did you read the Wire?” Sign up at [“Wire” Email Subscription | Tokeneke PTO](#)

Check out the TPTO website at <http://tokenekepto.com>

The website is an excellent resource for information, and includes the full year calendar. New families should visit [Welcome New Families | Tokeneke PTO](#).

Add Tokeneke to your contacts 📱

Our school phone # is [203-655-9666](tel:203-655-9666) and the school’s administrative assistants are Christy Guarino and Stacie Klein. You must call /email the office if your child is sick by 8:25am. You can always email your child’s teacher, but that should be in addition to calling our attendance line, not in place of.

Create an ASPEN account (if you haven’t already)

If you still need to create an account, Go to www.aspen.darienps.org. Contact and emergency medical information for each of your children must be completed. More instructions can be found on [Aspen Student Information System - Darien Public Schools](#)

Establish accounts for school lunch 🥗

Set-up a MySchool Bucks payment account [MySchoolBucks](#) to purchase school lunches. For help, contact [Meghan Bendish](#), Director of Dining Services. The school lunch menu can be found here <https://darienps.nutrislice.com/menu/>

Update your Directory Information and Purchase a Tokeneke School Directory 📁

Instructions will be posted in the Wire in early September.

Get your child's bus schedule 🚌

Also, about one week prior to the start of school, you will see bus routes published in the Darien Times. You can also find them usually a few days prior to the start of school on [Transportation - Darien Public Schools](#). Any questions/concerns regarding routing, bus drivers, safety, and bus stops should be directed via email to Dani Powers, Transportation Coordinator at dpowers@darienps.org

Check out the variety of after school programs offered at our school.

There are fees associated with the classes. Please visit [Darien After School, llc - Tokeneke](#) for all the details!

Purchase School Supplies ✎

If you need to purchase school supplies, supply lists by class can be found [HERE](#) For help, contact Juli Landers at Juli.McGlynn@gmail.com.

Purchase School Spiritwear 🧢

[Tokeneke Trader](#) is your one stop shop for all Tokeneke Elementary School spiritwear!

Follow Tokeneke on social media! 📺

Instagram: [tokeneke_pto](#)

Facebook: facebook.com/pto.tokeneke

[FAQs!](#) 💬

1. How can I get involved at Tokeneke? 🧑🧑

Through the Tokeneke Parent Teacher Organization “TPTO” there are many ways you can get involved! To learn more, come to the:

TPTO Volunteer Fair - September 6th from 9:00-10:00am

Tokeneke School Common Room

Reach out to the co-chairs with any questions.

TPTO Co-Chairs

Griffin Marr : griffinmarr@icloud.com

Jessica Murphy: jessnyc@gmail.com

2. Can I visit for lunch or recess? 🍴

Visitors are not permitted to visit for lunch or on the playground during the school day unless they have the permission of the Principal or Assistant Principal. The playground is an extension of the classroom, just outdoors.

3. How can I speak with my child’s teacher? 🧑🏫

Teachers may be reached by email or direct voicemail. Please allow at least a day, since they may not have the opportunity to check while school is in session. In case of emergency, please contact the front office directly.

4. How can I celebrate my child’s birthday? 🎂

Tokeneke will continue to have non-food celebrations for all birthdays. Students will not be allowed to bring food to share with their class or peers. Room parents, in conjunction with our Tokeneke PTO, will work with individual teachers and classes on other ways to celebrate children’s birthdays.

5. Are nuts allowed in school? 🥜

At the elementary school level, some classrooms will be designated as “NUT FREE” due to student need. If your child’s classroom is a “Nut Free” classroom, you will receive a notice from the school nurse or classroom teacher. Nuts will be permitted in the cafeteria this year, as there will be a designated NUT-FREE table.

6. Will my child get a locker? 🗝️

Our students will use their individual lockers as assigned by teachers.

7. What are the “specials” at Tokeneke? 📖

Art, Music, PE, World Language, and Library classes will be held in their typical special rooms and not in the students' classroom when possible. PE will also teach class outside when appropriate. Make sure your child is wearing the appropriate athletic footwear on PE days!

8. Where do I park? 🚗

You must park in the school parking lot if you intend to enter the school for any reason. Do not park in the bus loop or in the drop off/ pick up lane. Please drive slowly when you are on the school grounds.

9. May I bring my pet to pick-up? 🐕 🐢 🐓

Dogs and other pets are not permitted on school grounds between the hours of 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. In addition to health concerns, we have students who are afraid of even small, nice dogs and we want all students to be at school without worries.

10. Is a playdate allowed to come home with my child from school? 🚌

Yes, but it must be designated in our schools dismissal program (stay tuned for more on that soon). Children may not ride another bus for a playdate. Playdates must be facilitate by parent pick ups.

11. Is my child permitted to walk/ride their bike to school? 🚲

Students who walk to and from school must cross with the guard at the crosswalk at the intersection of Tokeneke and Old Farm Roads. The crossing guard is on duty from 8:15 a.m. – 8:40 a.m., and from 2:50 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Please remain on the blacktop paths and do not allow children to cross the parking lots or bus loop. Please walk bicycles or scooters on school property at all times. Only students in Grades 3-5 are permitted to ride their bicycles or scooters to school, and are required to wear helmets. Students are to park and LOCK their bicycles in racks located on the school grounds.