

Royle Blast

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## January 1, 2012

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in this issue

[PTO THANK YOU](#)

[ROYLE ENDEAVORS REGISTRATION BEGINS JANUARY 3RD!](#)

[MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE FIRST PTO MEETING OF THE NEW YEAR](#)

[IDEA WINTER 2011-2012 SCREENING PROCESS](#)

[BLAST OFF MATH NEWS](#)

[ROYLE BAND REHEARSALS](#)

[TIP OF THE WEEK](#)

[BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS](#)

[COMMUNITY NEWS](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

The Message Board is a weekly email newsletter that is sent Sundays throughout the school year. It is created by the PTO to keep parents informed about school and community news that is relevant to you and your child at Royle. Submission guidelines are posted at the end of each Message Board for your reference. If your email address changes, please click on the "Update Profile/E-mail address" link at the end of this newsletter to update it. We are pleased to provide this information to all of you and look forward to an exciting year at Royle.

Useful Web Sites:
Darien Public School: www.darienps.org
Royle School: www.darienps.org/royle/
Royle PTO: www.darienps.org/roylepto

Dates to Remember:

JANUARY

- 3 School Resumes
- 4 PTO Executive Board Meeting 9:15 a.m.
- 18 Royle Endeavors Winter Afterschool Program Begins
- 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day No School**
- 19 PTO Meeting (new date) 9:15 a.m.
- 20 Bingo Night

Messages from the PTO...

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

PTO THANK YOU'S

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The PTO would like to thank Mary Yvonne Faulkner for her efforts in recycling all of our drink pouches. We are keeping thousands of drink pouches out of landfills and earning money for our school! And thanks to all our families for sending in their pouches. Please keep them coming!

**ROYLE ENDEAVORS REGISTRATION BEGINS JANUARY 3RD!**

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Flyers went out before break for the Winter session of Royle Endeavors after school programs. Please note that the dates are incorrect. Correct dates are January 18th - March 29th. Registration begins Tuesday, January 3rd. Click on the Wingspan link on the Royle Endeavors Webpage <http://www.darienps.org/roylepto/REndeavors.htm> to register.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE FIRST PTO MEETING OF THE NEW YEAR!

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The first PTO meeting of 2012 will be held on Thursday, January 19th. Please note the change of date. Assistant Principal Natasha Torre-Heffron will be our guest speaker. She will talk in detail about the SRBI program. We hope to see you there!

**IDEA WINTER 2011-2012 SCREENING PROCESS**

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Throughout the next few weeks, IDEA will be accepting recommendations for their winter screening process. The winter process is open to all students in grades 1-5 who have not been recommended this past fall. Recommendations will be accepted between December 15th-January 9th, 2012

If you believe your child may be a candidate for IDEA, please let you classroom

teacher or building administrator know. To further assist you in your deliberations, you are encouraged to visit the IDEA Program website at www.darienps.org/ideaprogram for more information about the program and the identification process.

Parents, who are interested in recommending their child for the gifted program, should follow the steps below:

- Write a brief nomination letter to your child's teacher
- Download, complete, and attach the "Parent Questionnaire" form found on the IDEA website
- Submit these documents to Mrs. Heffron's Main Office mailbox no later than January 9th, 2012.
- Once all nominations are received, the screening process will begin.

Gifted students, in the Darien Public Schools, are those students in grades 1 through 9 who demonstrate or show potential for exceptional intellectual or specific academic capability. They comprise 5 to 8% of the general student population and their needs cannot be met fully in the mainstream education environment.

BLAST OFF MATH NEWS

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Attention parents! DAEG (Darien Advocates for the Education of the Gifted) is offering a second semester of the math enrichment program "Blast off Math" for 5th graders at Royle starting the week of January 23rd. This program is designed for students who are interested in working in a small team to solve challenging math problems. We welcome existing and new students! This 10 week session will begin with a quick review of key concepts covered in the first half before moving on to new math concepts. This course will be taught by Keith Satter on Wednesday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. Registration will be available online after the Holiday break. If you have any questions please email Patty Uhlman at [p\\_uhlman@yahoo.com](mailto:p_uhlman@yahoo.com) for more information.

**ROYLE BAND REHEARSALS**

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Fifth Grade Advanced Band rehearsals on Tuesdays at 7:30am in the Instrumental Music Portable.

Instrument Lessons for a few 4th and all 5th Grade Band students on Tuesdays during the school day. Please remember to bring your Band instrument to school.

Instrument Lessons for 4th Grade Band students on Wednesdays during the school day.

Please remember to bring your Band instrument to school.

TIP OF THE WEEK

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What do you think makes a family close?

For more information, go to [www.communityfunddarien.org](http://www.communityfunddarien.org).

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS**

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Upcoming elementary school highlights include:

January 10th, 2012, 7:30 p.m., Board of Education Conference Room

- Presentation of the Superintendent's Proposed Budget for 2012-2013
- Discussion of Personnel, Operating and Equipment 2012-2013
Recommended Budgets of Music, Physical Education, and Darien High School
- Approval of Board Master Calendar for February - August 2012

For the agendas and minutes of past Board of Education Meetings, please refer to the following link:

http://www.darienps.org/current/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=164&Itemid=120

COMMUNITY NEWS

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**PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED**

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**DARIEN LIBRARY NEWS**

**StoryTubes Competition**

StoryTubes is a video-creation competition in which kids create two-minute films about a book they love. Videos can take different forms: animated clip, dramatic performance, or just a simple booktalk (where kids tell the audience a little about the book and why it's so great). The Children's Library will make a camera and a room available for groups to film with in December and January. Entries are accepted between January 20 and February 20, and the contest is open to kids ages 5 to 18. For more information, please visit [darienlibrary.org/youth](http://darienlibrary.org/youth).

**Nutmeg @ Night 2012**

Tuesday, January 10 at 6 p.m.

The Children's Library invites kids in Grades 4 to 6 to a night celebrating a year of Nutmeg nominees! Join us for trivia, puzzles, and challenges, and the chance to win prizes as a group and an individual. Registration begins on Monday, December 19 at [darienlibrary.org/youth](http://darienlibrary.org/youth).

**DARIEN BASEBALL / SOFTBALL SPRING REGISTRATION -**

**Last chance for regular registration!! Registration fees increase with a late fee after December 31st.**

To register, please go to [www.dybs.org](http://www.dybs.org) and select Register Online on the left hand side of the page, then select the appropriate registration program for your child. Eligible Darien Little League Baseball players are those boys who are a minimum of 5 years-old (and in Kindergarten) and not older than 12 years-old, each as of April 30, 2012. Eligible Darien Little League Softball players are those girls who are a minimum of 5 years-old (and in Kindergarten) and not older than 14 years-old, each as of December 31, 2011. For 2nd through 9th Graders, regular registration will remain open until December 31, 2011, after which late fees will apply. For Kindergartners and 1st Graders, regular registration will remain open until January 31, 2012, after which late fees will apply. For questions regarding Little League Baseball registration, please contact David Williams [atdwbbc@optonline.net](mailto:atdwbbc@optonline.net) or Andrew Bogdan at [abogdan@optonline.net](mailto:abogdan@optonline.net). For Softball registration questions, please contact Alison Feeley at [feeley@optonline.net](mailto:feeley@optonline.net).

**NEW YEAR PROGRAMS AT DARIEN TOWN HALL - DARIEN RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

Fit Fridays -Boys & Girls-Darien Town Hall 1/6-3/16, \$100/10 wk session  
Rebounding, Zumba, Hula Hoop Dance, Yoga/Yoga Circus and Boogie Box, Kids with Jump Rope Sports (single & Chinese) are all added to the mix in this fun high energy, and never boring fitness program for kids that includes age appropriate nutrition and healthy lifestyle education. Our exercise topic will change every two weeks so the kids can experience many different way to exercise & stay fit. To register or for more information, please visit: [www.darienct.gov/parkrec](http://www.darienct.gov/parkrec) or call Parks & Recreation at 203-656-7325.

**DHS JOB OFFICE IS NOW ONLINE**

The Darien High School Jobs Office is now online and Ready to Help you Fill your Employment Needs! If you are looking for some help, part time or full time, after school or summer, we have over 350 students registered and eager to work for you! Log onto [www.darienps.org/dhsjobs](http://www.darienps.org/dhsjobs) and complete our employer registration form. Your job posting will be accessible to all our registered students. Babysitting, retail, office work, holiday gift wrapping, restaurant, intern, yardwork, odd jobs, party help, tutoring, sports coaching, computer help, pet sitting, childcare, etc. Any questions, call 203-424-0652 or [dhsjobsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:dhsjobsoffice@gmail.com).

**ROYLE BLAST SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

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If you would like to post a message in the Royle Blast, please note the following guidelines:

- Send information to roylemsgboard@gmail.com
- Please no attachments, limit submission to 1 paragraph, include contact name/phone/email
- Must be related to school activity or approved non-profit community event
- Must be e-mailed no later than **Thursday at 5pm**
- Editor has final discretion as to whether information is appropriate for the

Message Board

For questions or comments on the Royle Blast, please send an email to roylemsgboard@gmail.com

*Annie Necakov, Mary Canaday and Jennifer Shea
Royle Blast Editors*

USEFUL LINKS

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- [Royle Lunch Menu](#)
- [Royle PTO Website](#)
- [Royle School Website](#)
- [Royle Rags](#)

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email: roylemsgboard@gmail.com

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