

Royle Blast

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## September 2, 2011

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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:

SEPTEMBER

5	Labor Day	No School
6	Committee Chair Coffee	9:15 a.m.
7	Royle Wrap Up Begins	
8	Grade Level Coffees in the Common Room	
	Grade K	9:15 a.m.
	Grade 5	10:45 a.m.
9	Grade Level Coffees in the Common Room	
	Grades 1 & 3	9:15 a.m.
	Grades 2 & 4	10:45 a.m.
11	Family Picnic and Kids Care Bake Sale	4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
15	Kindergarteners Begin Full Day	
16	Class Pictures	
21	PTO Meeting	9:15 a.m.
22	Open House (Parents Only)	7:00 p.m.
27	Royle Wrap Up Ends	
28	Royle Treatment New Family Coffee	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
29	Rosh Hashanah	No School

Messages from the PTO...

WELCOME BACK TO ROYLE

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Welcome back to school to all the Royle families! We hope everyone had a fun, relaxing summer, and look forward to a wonderful year at Royle. Although the last week has been difficult for everyone enduring the impact of Hurricane Irene (and continues to be challenging for those of us still waiting for the restoration of power), we are excited about getting the school year started and have many great plans to make the 2011 - 2012 school year a terrific experience for all of Royle's students.

We will start the school year off with the great tradition of family fun at the Royle Back to School Family Picnic on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. We would also like to thank you in advance for your support of our major fundraiser Royle Wrap Up. Please plan to join us at our first PTO meeting on Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, at 9:15 in the cafeteria to learn more about what will be going on this year.

As always, if you have any questions or if we can be of assistance in any way, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Nicole Feingold & Tricia Spenner  
[nicolefeingold@hotmail.com](mailto:nicolefeingold@hotmail.com) [pspinner@gmail.com](mailto:pspinner@gmail.com)  
PTO Co-Chairs

**PTO THANK YOUS**

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Thank you to Amy McCann, Royle's Beautification Chair, for the lovely plantings in the front planters and the Lattimer garden. We appreciate your efforts to keep our school looking great! Also thank you to Debra Talwalkar for her creativity in decorating the "Dive Into a New Year" bulletin board by the office. And a final thank you to all of you who have volunteered to be Room Parents this year.

COMMITTEE CHAIR COFFEE RESCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 6th, 9:15 A.M.

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This is an important meeting for all committee co-chairs to attend, as we will be distributing pertinent information regarding communication, new procedures, budgets, expenses, and more. Please RSVP to [nicolefeingold@hotmail.com](mailto:nicolefeingold@hotmail.com). If you cannot attend, please let us know who will be representing your committee at this meeting.

**GRADE-LEVEL COFFEES**

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These coffees are a great chance to meet your class room parents and other parents in your child's class, as well as learn more about volunteering opportunities in the classroom. The PTO Co-Chairs will also share important beginning-of-school information for both new families and those returning to Royle. Please refer to the "Dates to Remember" section above for dates and times. All coffees will be held in the Common Room.

ROYLE WRAP UP

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Royle Wrap Up - our largest school fundraiser - is set to start on WEDNESDAY, Sept

7th. Please note this is one day later than originally stated due to the delay in the school opening. Please look for the large white envelopes going home with each student. We are excited to once again be working with Genevieve's, who has expanded their wrapping paper line, in addition to all the other wonderful gifts for family and friends. If shopping doesn't appeal to you - you may also make a direct contribution to the Royle PTO. Look for information on this option also in the white envelopes.

There will once again be prizes for top sellers, and each student who sells 20 or more items, or makes a \$100 direct donation, will be entered into a raffle to win a FLIP video camera! Our goal is to raise \$100 per student (which equals \$200 of merchandise) with 100% participation. Thank you so much for your support and Happy Selling!

Any questions, contact Christa McNamara at [christamcn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:christamcn@sbcglobal.net).

**ROYLE ENDEAVOR NEWS**

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The Royle Endeavors committee has been working hard to create new and exciting classes for the after school program! Registration flyers will be in backpacks next week. Online registration will run for two weeks from Monday, September 12th - Sunday, September 25th. The Fall Session runs from October 3rd through December 15th and classes will be offered Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays with pick up at 4:10. Cost will be \$135 per class, plus materials costs, if applicable. Further information can be found at this week's Grade Level Coffees and Parent Open House. Please contact Royle Endeavors Co-Chairs Jennie Hewitt at jlhewitt913@yahoo.com or 569-0390 or Courtney Darby courtneydarby@yahoo.com or 656-3834.

KIDS CARE - HELP US HELP FOSTER KIDS IN BRIDGEPORT - SEPT 7TH 3-4PM

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Please help us support the Bridgeport Social Services Foster Care program by:

- 1) Donating new or as-new backpacks and school supplies. Collection in front foyer.
- 2) Come to our meeting 3-4pm Wed Sept 7th to pack the backpacks. Email [crolapp@gmail.com](mailto:crolapp@gmail.com) to attend.
- 3) Bake cakes for the Back-to-school Picnic Bake Sale. All proceeds directly fund Kids Care projects.

Thanks for helping.

**ROYLE FAMILY PICNIC - SEPTEMBER 11th, 4:30-7:00PM**

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Grab your blanket and join us for food and games at the Royle Family Picnic! September 11th from 4:30-7:00pm
As always we need volunteers to make this event a success.
Please take some time out and consider pitching in. Contact Tara Wurm

(taraw@me.com) or Fran McGovern (mcgovern@optonline.net) to volunteer.

SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 22nd OPEN HOUSE, 7:00 P.M.

Open House is an evening to meet your child's teacher, learn about the grade-level curriculum, your child's class routines, and to meet other parents. It is a parent-only event; so please remember to line up your babysitter soon! Royle Rags, School Store and the Royle School Directory will also be on sale, so don't forget your checkbook!

FIRST PTO MEETING, SEPTEMBER 21st @ 9:15 A.M.

Please join us in the cafeteria for our first PTO meeting of the year. Mr. Margolus will bring us up to date on what is going on at Royle. You can also learn about all the great plans that our PTO Committees have for the school year. In addition, we have guest speaker Debbie Bossie, Darien's Director of Food Service & Nutrition, to discuss the changes to the lunch program. Coffee will be provided and younger siblings are always welcome. We hope to see you there!

STRING ORCHESTRA SIGN-UP PARTY

The Royle String Orchestra Sign-Up Party will be on **Tuesday, September 6 from 3:00 to 3:30 p.m.** in the **Instrumental Music Portable**. All students in grades 4 and 5 who are interested in starting or continuing on a string instrument (violin, viola, cello or bass) are invited to attend. For more information, please contact Jane Minnis at JMinnis@darienps.org.

String instrument lessons will begin on Monday, September 12 and our first Orchestra rehearsal will be on Tuesday, September 13 from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. A schedule will be handed out by Friday, September 10.

CHILD DROP-OFF/PICK-UP PROCEDURES

Please read carefully the Royle Safety Bulletin and Parking Lot Safety Memo which was included in your August mailing. Some important highlights and reminders:

- When dropping off or picking up, please use the loop in the back of the school. The front loop is reserved for buses only. Cars should not be in this loop at any time.
- Please pull your car as far into the drop-off/pick-up line as possible, which will help avoid back-ups on Royle Road. Make sure children exit the vehicle on the sidewalk side. If you need to assist your child, please park in one of the designated spaces - do not park in the loop.
- And please do not block the front loop bus entrance and exit as this slows down the buses. Together, we can make Royle a safer place for our children!

REMINDER: BLUE EMERGENCY FORMS AND WHITE EMERGENCY CARDS

Please remember to turn in the blue emergency forms. These forms will be used in the event of an emergency early dismissal. Please also promptly return to the school office the white emergency cards (two per child) that will be used by the

school nurse and teachers in the event of sickness, emergency, etc. These forms have different purposes, so please be sure to hand in all of them!

ROYLE SCHOOL DIRECTORY

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A draft class list for your child should have been in his/her backpack on Thursday 9/1. Please take the time to review it and let the Directory Committee know if your information has changed by Tuesday 9/6. You do not need to send it back if there are no changes. If you have any questions or would like to submit any directory changes via email, contact Annie Necakov at [annienecakov@gmail.com](mailto:annienecakov@gmail.com)

The 2011/12 Directory will be on sale at the Open House on 9/22.

**VISIT THE ROYLE SCHOOL STORE - SPECIAL HOURS THE 2ND WEEK OF SCHOOL**

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The Royle School Store will open for the first time this year on Tuesday, 9/6, Wednesday, 9/7, and Thursday, 9/8 for your back-to-school shopping list! The Royle 3rd, 4th and 5th grade assignment books will be available, as well as fun school supplies. Located in the cafeteria, the store is open from 8:05 - 8:25 a.m. Fifth graders are invited to work in the store during the year - look for an informational flyer to come home in backpacks! The volunteer deadline has been extended from 9/2 to 9/9. Contact Stephanie McGraw at tsmcgraw@optonline.net or 655-6585 with any questions.

PARENT RIDERS NEEDED FOR KINDERGARTEN BUS

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Volunteers are still needed to ride home with the Kindergarteners at 12:25 each day for the first two weeks of school. If you are the parent of a Kindergarten student and can help, please email Deb Ritchie at [debritc@optonline.net](mailto:debritc@optonline.net) with your availability. We are looking mostly for help the second week September 6 through 9. You must arrive at Royle by 12:15. You are required to ride the entire bus route returning back to school along with your Kindergarten student (unless you have made arrangements for your child to be met at the bus stop by someone else). Thanks for your help.

**REMINDER: ED-ALERT, PLEASE SIGN-UP**

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The Darien Public Schools have contracted with an outside vendor to disseminate emergency information from the Superintendent's office via email or text message. Parents may subscribe free of charge to this "Ed-Alert" system using the following web address: www.myschoolpages.com/schools/dariensps.

This service is not intended to replace the Blast e-newsletter, but simply give the Superintendent the means to send out immediate notification re: emergency closings or other urgent school matters. Parents are responsible for keeping this account information (email addresses and cell phone numbers) up to date.

NO LONGER AT ROYLE?

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You can unsubscribe to Royle Blast at the bottom of this message.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS**

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For the latest detailed Board of Education Master Agenda, please refer to the following link: [http://www.darienps.org/board of ed/master agenda.pdf](http://www.darienps.org/board%20of%20ed/master%20agenda.pdf)

Upcoming elementary school highlights include:

September 13th, 7:30 p.m., Board of Education Conference Room

September 27th, 7:30 p.m., Board of Education Conference Room

COMMUNITY NEWS

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**YOUTH COMMISSION MOVIE NIGHT RESCHEDULED**

Due to extensive storm damage & scheduling conflicts at Pear Tree Point Beach, the outdoor showing of Toy Story 3 will take place on Friday, September 16th, 7:15 p.m. at *TILLEY POND PARK*. (The rain-date will be at Tilley Pond Park on Saturday, September 17th @ 7:15 p.m.). Uncle's Deli will be on-hand with their ever-famous hot dog cart & treats! This event is co-sponsored by the Darien Youth Commission and Parks & Recreation. For more information, please call (203) 656-7388 or visit [www.darienct.gov/parkrec](http://www.darienct.gov/parkrec)

**DARIEN LIBRARY NEWS**

**New Family Orientations**

**Saturday, September 17 and October 1 at 2 p.m. in the Children's Library**

The Children's Library welcomes new families to Darien! We will be holding two orientation sessions to introduce our programs and services for kids and adults, which will include a tour of the Library and assistance with obtaining library cards. Registration is not needed, just drop-in. Snacks will be served and kids are welcome!

**7, 8, Create!**

**Wednesdays at 4:15 p.m. (September 14-28 and November 9-December 7)**

This program features books, activities, crafts, and games. Past sessions covered topics including codes, Mardi Gras masks, and pirates. The first two sessions for the fall, September 14 and 21, will be led by Kathy Hammell and have an origami theme! Both beginner and advanced paper-folders are welcome! **Ages 7 and 8.**

**Nutmeg Book Group - *Signal* by Cynthia DeFelice**

**Wednesday, September 28 at 6:15 p.m.**

Nutmeg Book Groups are back for the fall! In *Signal*, Owen meets a girl named Champion, who says her alien parents will be coming to pick her up in four days. Is she really an alien or just really strange? Each meeting includes a discussion over pizza and a book-related activity. **Ages 9 to 12.**

**PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED**

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CUB SCOUT PACK 56 INVITES ALL INTERESTED SCOUTS TO OUR FIRST PACK MEETING, SEPTEMBER 15, 7:00-8:00 P.M., ANDREW SHAW MEMORIAL SCOUT CABIN, 140 WEST AVENUE

Pack 56 would like to invite all interested boys in Grades 1 through 4 to join with us in the exciting adventure of Scouting. On Thursday, September 15 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Pack 56 will be having its first Pack meeting at the Scout Cabin on West Avenue. All boys and parents interested in Cub Scouting are invited to come learn about the program.

We plan to have a guest speaker from the Norwalk Emergency Shelter speak to us about their programs and services. This is a great way for us to kick off the first part of our year which includes the Christmas Crackers, Food Drive, and Emergency Kit collection service projects we'll take on in November and December and which directly benefit the Shelter. We plan to end our evening with a few fun team building games and smores by the fire.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, but wish to learn more about the program, please contact Colleen Felske at (203) 202-9639 or colleenfelske12@hotmail.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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:roylemsgboard@gmail.com)

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