

# Royle Blast

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**October 16, 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](http://www.darienps.org)  
Royle School: [www.darienps.org/royle/](http://www.darienps.org/royle/)  
Royle PTO: [www.darienps.org/roylepto](http://www.darienps.org/roylepto)

**Dates to Remember:**

**OCTOBER**

24 Royle Gift Card Sales Begin (Delivered by 11/21)

**NOVEMBER**

- 1 Trash Free Tuesdays continue throughout the year
- 2 Executive Board Meeting 9:15 a.m.
- 2 Enrichment: Boston Museum of Science, Grades 1 & 4
- 8 Election Day (Staff Development) No School
- 9 PTO Meeting 9:15 a.m.**  
**Guest Speakers: Dr. Steve Falcone, Superintendent**  
**and Dr. Judith Pandolfo, Assistant Superintendent**
- 10 Enrichment: Author Tony Abbott, Grades 3 - 5
- 15-18 Book Fair (Family Night 11/16)

Messages from the PTO...

**PTO THANK YOUS**

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The PTO would like to thank Tara Fram and Julia Raia for coordinating all the library volunteers and conducting the training sessions for them. And thanks to all that volunteered for library this year! It is in great shape! We would also like to thank Stephen Kletter and his mother, Laura, for initiating and organizing the Let's Jump event at Royle last Wednesday. We had 427 people participating and the students clearly had fun as they laughed through their minute of jumping jacks. All were excited to be part of this record-breaking event.

**WEB PREPAYMENT SYSTEM FOR SCHOOL LUNCH**

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With LunchPrepay.com you never have to worry about lost lunch money again. LunchPrepay.com is a secure, easy and convenient way to apply funds directly to your student's account online. You can even check the account balance and keep an eye on what your student is buying! As an added convenience, parents can receive a Low Balance notification email alerting the parent that the student's account will need another payment applied soon.

[www.LunchPrepay.com](http://www.LunchPrepay.com) has been designed to make it easy for you to know exactly what information you need to provide and to guide you through the process.

**Details:**

**Membership**

- \$10 Membership fee (one-time only)
- Deposit money with ease using your debit or credit card
- Flexibility to deposit money into multiple student accounts with one payment
- View Account Balances
- View 90 day Meal History
- Low Balance Notification via email

To learn more visit [www.LunchPrepay.com](http://www.LunchPrepay.com). To register, you simply need your student's district student Id #. If you do not have this number you may obtain it from your student's school. You can also access this system via the Darien Public School's website at [www.darienps.org/current](http://www.darienps.org/current).

**WALK TO SCHOOL OR RIDE THE BUS, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19th**

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Please join in for another Walk to School or Ride the Bus Wednesday. Get ready to get up a little earlier and Walk to School or Ride the bus on October 19th. Show your kids that this one thing can be good for the environment and good for them too!

Wake up and Walk or Ride the bus to school, it is a great way to start the day!

If you need your bus schedule click here, [http://www.darienps.org/current/general/2011\\_ROY\\_BUS.pdf](http://www.darienps.org/current/general/2011_ROY_BUS.pdf)

For questions, please email Kerri Sloan at [kerrisloan@optimum.net](mailto:kerrisloan@optimum.net) or Beth Harmon [5harmons@optonline.net](mailto:5harmons@optonline.net).

**PICTURE ORDERS**

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This Wednesday October 19<sup>th</sup> is FINAL day to turn in your picture orders.

Retakes will be held on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00-10:30 a.m.

**ROYLE SCHOOL STORE NEWS**

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Stop in for a spell and check out the new Halloween goodies at the Royle School Store! Buy your Spooktacular Treat Bags for \$4 until Halloween or while they last. Treat the kids with the Halloween Scream Writer and Light-up Pens, Monster Relaxable Balls and Fuzzy Hairy Monster Book Marks! Located in the cafeteria, the store is open Wednesdays from 8:05 - 8:25 a.m. Contact Stephanie McGraw at [tsmcgraw@optonline.net](mailto:tsmcgraw@optonline.net) or 203-655-6585 with any questions.

**GRADES 3-5 AUTHOR VISIT - TONY ABBOTT**

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The Enrichment Committee is pleased to welcome children's author, Tony Abbott, creator of the very popular series *Secrets of the Droom* and *The Haunting of Derek Stone* to Royle School on Thursday, November 10. He will spend an hour with each grade discussing, reading, writing and the creative process. If you would like to purchase books for Mr. Abbott to sign on the day of his visit, please turn in your order (available at [www.darienps.org/roylepto/FormsFlyers.htm](http://www.darienps.org/roylepto/FormsFlyers.htm)) and payment to the office by **Friday, October 21**. If you have any questions, please email [katrinagoc@gmail.com](mailto:katrinagoc@gmail.com).

**MISSING CAPRI SUN BACK PACKS**

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The Go Green Committee is trying to track down two Capri Sun back packs removed two years ago from the Cafeteria bulletin board when a new board was created. If anyone has them in their possession, please contact Mary Yvonne Faulkner at 656-2934 and/or [mymfaulkner@optonline.net](mailto:mymfaulkner@optonline.net). We need them for a new display. Thanks so much.

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

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After last year's big success with our Box Tops incentive, we are bringing it back with the hopes to raise more money for Royle School. We will be counting and keeping a running tally of all the Box Tops brought in this year. The classroom that brings in the most coupons will win a brown bag lunch and popsicle party with Keith Margolus! The classrooms that come in second and third place will receive a popsicle party as a thank you for their efforts. All you have to do is put your Box Tops for Education coupons in an envelope marked with your teacher's name. There is a collection box in the main office. Keep a look out as there will be a chart near the main office tracking the numbers for each class! We will be keeping count until February 15th! Thank you for participating. Questions please contact Lisa Elwell at [lisavelwell@gmail.com](mailto:lisavelwell@gmail.com).

**FALL "4" MATH**

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It's that time of year for Fall "4" Math! DAEG is again co-sponsoring this program(formerly known as March Math Madness) with the elementary schools to show just how much fun math can be! Students will be encouraged to play math games at home with parents, siblings and friends for 2 weeks - **October 17th unitl October 28th**. These games will focus on developing logical thinking, spatial reasoning, critical problem solving and even math fact skills! Just log on to [www.darienps.org/mathmadness/](http://www.darienps.org/mathmadness/) to find grade- appropriate links and games developed by the district. All you need to get started is a set of dice, a deck of cards and some coins.

Just have your child fill out the Play Log they receive and return it to school on Monday, October 24th and Monday October 31st. At the end of the two week play period, the class in each grade at your school with the highest total percentage of participation will win a prize! Ready, set MATH!

**ROYLE MUSIC NEWS**

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Please welcome Mr. Greg Sullivan to the Royle School Community. Mr. Sullivan is currently a student at Western Connecticut State University and will be student teaching with Mrs. Turkosz for the next seven weeks. He will be teaching the general music classes under supervision from Mrs. Turkosz and also assisting with the Royle Minstrels.

**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 4<sup>th</sup> and all 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band students on Tuesdays during the school day. Please remember to bring your Band instrument to school.

Instrument Lessons for 4<sup>th</sup> 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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Ask your children if they have ever had to help resolve a disagreement between two or more friends. If so, how did they handle it? Talk about peaceful conflict resolution. For more information, go to [www.communityfunddarien.org](http://www.communityfunddarien.org)

**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/current/board\\_of\\_ed/master\\_agenda.pdf](http://www.darienps.org/current/board_of_ed/master_agenda.pdf)

Upcoming elementary school highlights include:

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m., Board of Education Conference Room

- Presentation of October 1<sup>st</sup> Enrollment Report and Projections
- Presentation of Updated Seven Year Capital Plan

November 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m., Board of Education Conference Room

- Reorganization of Board of Education (Election of Officers)
- Report on Curriculum Work related to the Teaching and Learning of World Languages and Examination of Structures for Expansion into the Elementary and Middle Schools

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

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**PACK 56 CUB SCOUTS NEED YOUR HELP MAKING CHRISTMAS CRACKERS  
DONATE TOILET PAPER/PAPER TOWEL ROLLS AND LEFT OVER  
HALLOWEEN CANDY**

At our November 10 meeting, Pack 56 will attempt to make over 1000 Christmas Crackers for the Norwalk Emergency Shelter to hand out during the holidays. In the front hall there is a box for toilet paper rolls and paper towel rolls and left over Halloween candy. Please donate all that you can from now until November 10. We'll stuff the rolls with candy and wrap with holiday paper and ribbon. It's a small gift that goes a long way during the holiday season. Questions? Contact Karen Brennan, Chair of Pack 56, [kbrennan15@aol.com](mailto:kbrennan15@aol.com).

**GIRL SCOUTS COAT DRIVE!**

The Girl Scouts of Darien are organizing a Coat Drive throughout the month of October. Coats (of all sizes) will be cleaned and donated to the Bridgeport Rescue Mission, who estimates that 5000+ coats will be needed this year. Please clean out your closets and donate to this worthy cause! A collection box is in the front hall. If you have any questions, please email Tracy Schiff at [tbschiff@yahoo.com](mailto:tbschiff@yahoo.com). Thanks!

**DARIEN POST 53 HAUNTED HOUSE**

Darien EMS Post 53 invites all ghouls and ghosts to our annual Halloween Haunted House!

Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 - 8:00 PM at Post headquarters, 0 Ledge Road.

Fun for all ages (Haunted House tours leveled not scary to more scary), treats and more...

For information call 203-655-8980

**DARIEN LIBRARY NEWS**

**Introduction to Hand Sewing**

Children Ages 8-12 class size is limited to 20

Date: November 12th 2-4

Sewing learned at a young age can be very empowering to a young crafty child. A sewing machine is not required to learn to sew. All you need is some fabric, thread and a needle. There are many great resources available to continue their love affair with sewing. I've been teaching both my 7 and 4 year old how to sew. Sewing is a tradition that has been passed down from generation to generation in my family. In my class, your child will learn a few basics elements of hand sewing. We will practice making yo-yo's and learn some basic hand embroidery techniques. Register at <http://www.darienlibrary.org/events/calendar>.

**SWINGSET MAMAS PERFORM AT THE FERGUSON LIBRARY IN STAMFORD  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 6:00 P.M.**

**A ROCK N' ROLL BENEFIT CONCERT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**

Come rock and roll with the Swingset Mamas for a good cause! Blending terrific musicianship and heartfelt parenting tips, the Swingset Mamas will have people of all ages on their feet dancing to an eclectic style of music ranging from rock to reggae. The Stamford School Readiness Foundation will use the concert proceeds to send 1000 Childcare Learning Center preschool children to Goodnight Moon at the Palace Theater in December 2011. General admission is \$10 and includes free parking (children under 3 are free). A limited number of \$250 premium packages

are available and include 4 concert tickets, parking, a pizza party with the band, t-shirts, and autographed CDs and DVDs. Tickets may be purchased online at: <http://swingsetmamas.ticketleap.com>. Donations will also be accepted at this site. Since 1902, Childcare Learning Centers has been the largest provider of low-cost early childhood education and care programs for children from birth to five, and social services programs-health, nutrition, literacy, and parenting for predominantly low-income families in lower Fairfield County. The Ferguson Library is located at 96 Bedford Street in Stamford. Please call 203-977-5168 with questions.

**PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED**

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**HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR CONCERT**

The Darien High School and 8th Grade Orchestras will be performing a free "Halloween Spooktacular" concert on Thursday, October 27th at 7:30 p.m. at Darien High School. This one-hour concert will be a fun experience for the whole family! Audience members of all ages are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes to the concert. The seasonal program will include *The Addams Family*, *Danse Macabre*, *In the Hall of the Mountain King*, and *Highlights from Harry Potter*.

From 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., the Darien Art Department will be having an opening reception for their Monster Invasion Art Show in the DHS Auditorium Gallery (2nd floor). Arrive early and enjoy!

For more information, contact Jane Minnis at 203-655-3981 ext 2287 or [JMinnis@darienps.org](mailto:JMinnis@darienps.org).

**NOROTON HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE!!!**

Sunday            October            16            -            10am            to            4pm

The volunteers of the Noroton Heights Fire Department invite children of all ages to come join us for this year's Open House. It will take place behind the firehouse at 209 Noroton Avenue (by the baseball fields). Activities will include fire truck rides, extinguisher training (on a real fire), shooting water from hoses and participation in loads and loads of great demonstrations. In addition, Met Life will be on scene to create free child safety identification cards, Norwalk FD will bring its smokehouse simulator, Post 53 will be doing blood pressure checks and the CT State Police will be showing off its new rollover simulation device. Any questions, please call the firehouse at 203-655-1033.

**FREE COMPUTER CLASSES**

Free computer classes for school and community volunteers are being offered by the Darien Foundation for Technology & Community from October 11th to November 10th. Take one class or take them all! Classes include: Photo Organization, PowerPoint, Excel, Mail Merge and Publisher. For more information and to register, please visit our website [www.darienfoundation.org](http://www.darienfoundation.org) and click on the Computer Class button. All classes are held from 9:00am to noon at the Darien Library. If you have questions, call Pam Dysenchuk at 203-655-5099.

**DARIEN LIBRARY PROGRAMS**

**Celebrate Deepavali!** Tues 10/25 4:15 p.m.  
Join us for a celebration of Deepavali (Diwali), the Festival of Lights and Indian New Year! Learn more about its traditions, enjoy Deepavali stories, and design holiday

diyas! Ages 7 to 10. Register at [darienlibrary.org/youth](http://darienlibrary.org/youth).

**Nutmeg Book Group - *Masterpiece* by Elise Broach** Wed 10/26 6:15 p.m.

A beetle who can draw and an art heist at the Metropolitan Museum of Art are just two parts of this mystery story. Join us for pizza, a book discussion, and a story-related activity. Ages 9 to 12. Drop in.

**Nurturing the Arts Panel Discussion** Wed 10/26 7 p.m.

Darien Library and YWCA Parent Awareness present a discussion of the value of art in a child's life. The panel will include experts who work with children in the arts and teens who are active in the arts.

**DARIEN NATURE CENTER OPEN HOUSE**

The Darien Nature Center invites families to its fall open house, Hoot & Howl Sunday 10/23 4-6p.m. Hayrides, haunted hikes, campfire stories, s'mores, live animals and more!! Admission: \$5 per person.

**DARIEN ARTS CENTER SATURDAY WORKSHOPS**

The Darien Arts Center is accepting registration for two **SPOOKY FUN** Saturday art workshops! Call 203-655-8683 for information and to sign up!

Halloween and Day of the Dead will inspire your ghoulish creations in **MONSTER MARIONETTES!** With artist Heather Kahlert, Sat 10/22 10:30-12noon, \$35. Ages 8 & up!

Sculpt a papier-mâché **JACK-O-LANTERN** you can bring out for many Halloweens to come, with Joyce Bottone! Sat 10/29, 10:30-12noon, \$28. Ages 5 & up!

**YMCA FAMILY FUN DAY**

The 15th annual Darien Family Fun Day, hosted by the Holly Pond School, will be held from 12 noon to 3 pm on Sunday, October 16th, at the Darien YMCA. This family event is open to the public and is designed for pre-school and elementary school age children. Due to ongoing construction, this year's event will be held indoors regardless of weather. Tickets cost \$25 per family.

Family Fun Day, the Holly Pond School's largest fundraiser of the year, will feature pony rides, a magic show, a bouncy castle and ball pit, games, crafts, bake sale and a silent auction of fabulous gift baskets. Food and beverages will be available at the event. All crafts and activities are organized and staffed by Holly Pond School parents. Activities include face painting, pumpkin and cupcake decorating, mask making, bowling and learning karate moves from a skilled instructor.

Holly Pond School students and parents will also create themed gift baskets for the silent auction which will be held during Family Fun Day. The baskets will be on display in the front lobby of the Darien YMCA; bidding will begin on October 10th. This year's basket themes will be designed to appeal to a wide variety of age ranges. Basket highlights include princess dress-up, cars and trucks, American Girl dolls, beauty and fashion for tweens, as well as birthday parties, date night, mommy spa day, and activities for dad.

For more information regarding Darien Family Fun Day, please contact April Greene, Holly Pond School Youth Services Director, at 203-655-8228 ext 309.



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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