

# Royle Blast



## Calendar

**12.20 - 12.23 Spirit Week!**

**12.23 Early Dismissal for Winter Break**

**12.24 - 12.31 No School - Winter Break**

## From Our PTO Chairs

Dear Royle,

This week is packed with holiday fun for the last few days of school in 2021. Spirit week starts tomorrow with Winter Frozen Crazy Hair & Hat Day - wow! See below for more Spirit Week details.

On Tuesday, all of our wonderful staff will receive a holiday gift from Royle Families and the PTO. Thank you so much to those families who have already donated to the Royle Appreciation Fund that makes it possible to celebrate our staff throughout the year. If you haven't yet contributed, you can do so anytime on [pay4schoolstuff.com](https://pay4schoolstuff.com).

We wish you all a safe and healthy holiday break!

Lindsay & Monica

[Lindsaykollar@gmail.com](mailto:Lindsaykollar@gmail.com) & [Monicaosilverman@gmail.com](mailto:Monicaosilverman@gmail.com)

## Royle Info

### **SPIRIT WEEK! 12/20-12/23**

Our Student Council is organizing a SPIRIT WEEK for the week leading up to the winter break. The schedule is as follows:

Monday 12/20: Winter-inspired Frozen Crazy Hair/Hat Day!

Tuesday 12/21: "Ugly" Sweater Day!

Wednesday 12/22: Holiday/Royle Spirit Day: Wear Red/Green or Blue/White!

Thursday 12/23: Holiday/Winter PJ Day for the Kids (more below)!

### **PJ Day for the Kids!**

Our Student Council has decided to participate in PJ Day for the Kids this year!

PJ Day for the Kids is a fundraiser that benefits the Connecticut Children's Medical Center, and specifically supports kids with cancer. Across the entire state of Connecticut, individual districts, schools, and organizations participate in this fundraiser, all raising money for this important cause, and celebrating participating with a PJ Day. We will hold our PJ Day on Thursday 12/23 as part of Spirit Week. If you would like to donate to this fundraiser, please follow this link: [give.connecticutchildrens.org/royle](https://give.connecticutchildrens.org/royle) or you can go to the main [PJ Day for the Kids website](#) and search for Royle Elementary School.

### **ROYLE GO GREEN: SEASON'S GREEN-INGS!**

Here are some eco-friendly tips for a more sustainable holiday

- **Containerized Tree:** Think about purchasing a containerized tree to decorate, and then plant it in your yard later in the spring.
- **Gift Wrapping:** Traditional wrapping paper typically can't be recycled. Get creative and use old newspaper or fabric scraps. Or opt for brown craft paper, which can be recycled or reused.
- **Candles:** Use environmentally sustainable candles. Beeswax, soy, and palm oil provide more natural alternatives to traditional paraffin candles.



For more ideas visit our [Go Green for the Holidays](#) page on the Royle PTO Website.

*Royle Go Green Team*



## ROYLE "HOUR OF CODE" CONTINUES

This month, Royle students will participate in our annual Hour of Code! This program is an international Computer Science initiative and the largest learning event in history! Students will develop creativity, problem-solving & critical thinking skills while engaging in fun coding activities! Students will receive a certificate, upon completion of an hour of coding.

*Learn today, build a brighter tomorrow.*  
{Visit: <https://code.org/> for more information.}

## Kids Care Club: Holiday Cards for Maplewood Residents

Spread the joy this Holiday season by creating handmade cards for the residents of Maplewood. This has become a yearly Royle tradition and the residents love receiving the cards so get creative and maybe make more than one! Please bring the cards to Royle and drop them off with your teach or at the front desk December 20 - 23. Happy Holidays!

## Holiday Cards with Minted!

It's that time of year to order your holiday cards! And, Royle has partnered up with Minted to save you 20% on your order with promo code **FUNDRAISEROYLE**. Plus, Minted will donate 15% of their profits back to Royle - it's a win-win! You can also share this code with friends and family, we like to spread the love!

If you participated in the Royle Family Photo session with Karen Morneau and have not received your photo gallery, please touch base with Lindsay ([Lindsaykollar@gmail.com](mailto:Lindsaykollar@gmail.com)) or Monica ([Monicaosilverman@gmail.com](mailto:Monicaosilverman@gmail.com)).

## Winter Enrichment with Darien After School at Royle!

Darien After School at Royle brings you WINTER Enrichment where students find a new favorite, be anything they want to be and make new friends!

Winter Session – 1/10-4/8, after school until 4:10pm

BLAST through the COLD with Sports, Enrichment, Art, Science and MORE... details can be found at [www.DarienAfterSchool.com](http://www.DarienAfterSchool.com)

Registration Open Online

Questions? [info@darienafterschool.com](mailto:info@darienafterschool.com) / 888.212.3837.  
You can also contact Jessica Bartch at [bartch.jessica@gmail.com](mailto:bartch.jessica@gmail.com).

## Royle Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Please visit our new landing page located on the Royle PTO website under "Resources". We

welcome parents to subscribe to our monthly updates and share your ideas. We hope for this platform to be a way for all voices in our community to be heard and for us to learn and grow together!

[roylepto.com/resources/dei-diversity-equity-inclusion](https://roylepto.com/resources/dei-diversity-equity-inclusion)

## Important Reminder From the Royle Main Office

If your child will be ABSENT or TARDY, please notify the Main Office via the attendance line. You can call 203-655-0044 x4977 OR send an email to [royleatt@darienps.org](mailto:royleatt@darienps.org).

## Let's Restock the Teacher's Lounge

Show your support for our amazing Royle Staff by helping to restock the Teacher Lounge with snacks, goodies and essentials! The Amazon Wish List will ship directly to Royle and remain active until the list is complete!

[Teacher's Lounge Wishlist](#)

# Darien School District & Town Info

## CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION

Questions or suggestions for DPS? Please use this Chain of Communication guide for school-related matters.

[DPS Chain of Communication](#)

## CDSP's "DID YOU KNOW" SERIES - #4

The Council of Darien School Parents (CDSP) is the umbrella organization for the Parent Teacher Organizations (PTOs) of all Darien Schools. Did you know that CDSP has a Community Outreach Committee? Community Outreach supports various organizations in town including Music for Youth, the Darien Foundation, and the Darien YWCA. Community Outreach also champions CDSP's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) efforts. This DEI component includes communication with the Administration, as well as monthly meetings with DEI Chairs from all schools to coordinate ideas related to enrichment for students and resources for parents, focused on promoting a welcoming and inclusive social and learning environment for all DPS students. Jennifer Sherman is the Community Outreach Chair for CDSP this year and can be reached at [cdspdei@gmail.com](mailto:cdspdei@gmail.com) with any questions or comments.

# COMMUNITY

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITHOUT LEAVING THE HOUSE

Darien Human Services maintains an AMAZON WISH LIST that helps local families and seniors throughout the year. Wish list items include toiletries, paper goods and gift cards that will be delivered straight to the Human Services Department at Town Hall. Please consider helping struggling DARIEN families and seniors from the comfort of your own home. Search Amazon Registry for: Darien Human Services or [click here: Amazon Wish List](#) Darien Human Services Department is grateful for donations large and small, especially during the holidays. Questions? Contact us: 203 656 7328

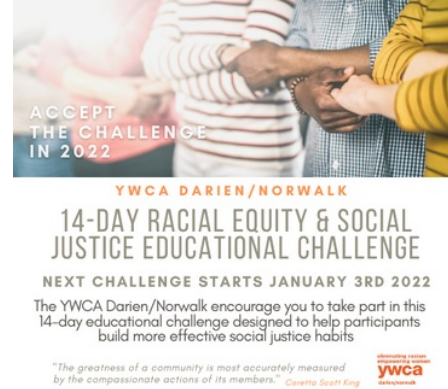
## THE DEPOT'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY WRAP-UP STARTS DECEMBER 18th!

Have time to shop but no time to wrap? The Darien Depot Youth Center's "elves" are back to wrap presents for residents just before the holidays! For a minimum \$20 donation, residents can drop off their unwrapped and labeled Christmas presents at the Depot from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekends and from 3 to 8 p.m. weekdays. Holiday wrap-up ends on December 22nd.

## YWCA 14-Day Racial Equity & Social Justice Educational Challenge

New Year - New Habits. Start your year off by taking part in the YWCA 14-Day Racial Equity & Social Justice Educational Challenge beginning on January 3rd 2022. In response to multiple requests, the YWCA is re-releasing the 14-Day Racial Equity & Social

Justice Challenge. The Challenge asks participants to make time and space to build more effective social justice habits— particularly those dealing with issues of race, power, privilege and leadership—for 14 days. Participants who have signed up for the Challenge will receive daily tasks via email to help foster their understanding and awareness, including activities such as: reading an article, listening to a podcast, and reflecting on personal experience. Participation in an activity like our 14-Day Challenge helps us to discover how racial inequity and social injustice impact our community, to connect with one another and identify ways to dismantle racism and other forms of discrimination. Even if you participated last year, we encourage you to participate again, there is so much to learn. Are you up for the Challenge? <https://ywcadn.org>



## **DARIEN HUMAN SERVICES HOLIDAY GIFT-GIVING PROGRAM HELP YOUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED**

### **Adopt a Family or Adopt a Senior Citizen**

Celebrate the holidays by bringing joy to a struggling family or senior. Families range in size from 2 to 6 people. Due to Covid, we are asking for donations of gift cards (you will receive suggestions to make things more personalized). Drop off the gift cards in our office and your "adopted" family or senior will pick them up from us. We welcome local clubs and organizations to take part in this charitable opportunity.

### **Gift Card Donations Always Welcome**

Darien Human services gratefully accepts gift card donations from grocery stores, gas, Target and Walmart. We use these cards throughout the year to help struggling clients.

**For more information contact us at 203-656-7328**

**Darien Human Services, Room 109, Town Hall, 2 Renshaw Rd, Darien, CT 06820**

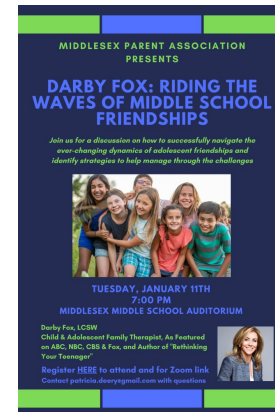
## **SAVE THE DATE: RIDING THE WAVES OF MIDDLE SCHOOL FRIENDSHIPS**

Presentation and discussion with Darby Fox

Hosted by Middlesex Parent Association

Jan 11th @ 7PM in MMS Auditorium and on Zoom

The MPA will host a parent presentation and discussion with Darby Fox, LCSW, Child and Adolescent Family Therapist, as featured on ABC, NBC, CBS, and Fox News and author of "Rethinking Your Teenager: Shifting from Conflict and Control to Structure and Nurture to Raise Accountable Young Adults". Darby will discuss strategies to help parents successfully navigate the ever-changing landscape of adolescent friendships. [Register Here.](#)



## **DARIEN ARTS CENTER:**

**Spring registration** is open at [darienart.org](http://darienart.org)! Classes in DANCE, ART, MUSIC & MARTIAL ARTS for all ages begin in January. Sign up for: Ballet, Hip Hop, Broadway, Modern, Jazz, Lyrical & Contemporary Dance; Piano, Flute, Percussion, String Instruments, Singing/Songwriting; Cartooning, Digital Illustration, Iphone Photography, Drawing, Painting, Collage & more.

The DAC is located at 2 Renshaw Road, behind the Town Hall. For questions, call (203) 655-8683.

## **ICE SKATE AND HELMET DRIVE FOR ICE SKATING FOR EVERYONE INC.**

This organization, founded by Emily Kelting, retired professional figure skater, has partnered with Horizons at NCCS, the Darien Ice House and the SONO Ice House to offer skating lessons to underserved 1st and 2nd grade children from Stamford and Norwalk.

**Ice Skating for Everyone is in need of figure or hockey skates and hockey/ bike/ski helmets for children ages 5-7 years old – we accept used items!** If you would like to donate, please email [Tracey Riccardi](mailto:Tracey.Riccardi@iceforall.org) or text/call (917) 969-6313 for pick-up.

## **LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL - REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**

To register, visit [www.dybs.org](http://www.dybs.org) and click the Registration tab on the left. All players must be Darien residents, in K to 7th grade during the 2021-2022 school year and may not be older than 12 on September 1, 2022. Regular registration for all players: 2nd-7th: regular registration until Dec 31, 2021, after which late fee will apply. K and 1st: regular registration until Jan 31, 2022, after which late fee will apply. It is the policy of Darien Little League that all children have the opportunity to play



regardless of ability to pay. To request scholarship, email [Shawn Ryan](#). Scholarship requests and grants are handled discreetly and confidentially. If you have any questions regarding registration, contact Akshay Das at [thedases+DLL@gmail.com](mailto:thedases+DLL@gmail.com)

### **DARIEN YOUTH LACROSSE - REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**

Darien Youth Lacrosse, Inc. (DYL) promotes lacrosse among youth residing in Darien, CT, through grade-level programs open to all interested participants, by teaching fundamentals of the game and promoting good sportsmanship, respect for all participants and teamwork, and by cooperating with the Darien High School lacrosse programs. Registration is open for all interested players in grades 1-8 from November 8th until January 11th (late fees apply after January 11th). Our season starts in March! Please visit our website [www.dylax.com](http://www.dylax.com) to register and for additional information.

Any questions, please email [dylaxregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:dylaxregistrar@gmail.com)

Previous Issues of **The Blast** are available on the PTO website.

### **IMPORTANT LINKS - CONNECT WITH ROYLE**

[School Dismissal Manager](#)

[Royle PTO](#)

[Darien Public Schools](#)

[Join Our Royle Blast Email Distribution](#)

**Send Your Submissions to: [roylemsgboard@gmail.com](mailto:roylemsgboard@gmail.com)**

