

ROYLE



BLAST

Calendar

October

- 5** **No School** - Yom Kippur
- 13** Special Education Parent Coffee
- 29** Family Photo Day Fundraiser
- 31** Kindergarten Halloween Share

From Our PTO Chairs

Dear Royle Knights,

What a week! Our second annual Royle Walk-a-thon was SO fun, and a huge success thanks to our school community. We're thrilled to announce that we exceeded our goal of \$25K! Those funds will directly benefit our kids through enrichment programs, field trips, and teacher appreciation.

We loved seeing everyone show their Royle spirit as they walked or cheered for their favorite Royle Knight. Thank you to Susan Fiveson for orchestrating this amazing event, and a BIG thank you to all the families and supporters of the PTO!

We hope everyone enjoyed meeting our new mascot, Sir Learns-a-Lot! He will be making appearances at many future Royle events!

There is no school on Wednesday in observance of the Yom Kippur holiday.

Sincerely,

[Amy Reid](#) and [Dawn MacDonald](#)

PTO Co-Chairs

Darien After School @ Royle

Welcome Back to School and Fall Enrichment with **Darien After School @ Royle** - where students can be anything they want to be and make new friends!

Fall classes are offered Monday-Friday; starting 9/27 through 12/22. Rolling Registration Open Throughout the Session.

Classes include Sports, Music, Art, Science, Theater and MORE...

Schedule, Program Details & Registration

@<https://www.darienafterschool.com/Royle.html>

Welcome Kindergarteners and New Families too! Please Click [HERE for information on how our program works](#), or reach out to us anytime!

Contact: info@darienafterschool.com / 888.212.3837

Royle Moms Go To Town

Thursday, October 13th, 7-9:30pm

LA  TAQUERIA

Join us on Thursday, October 13th from 7-9:30 PM to kick off a great year at La Taqueria, the new local hot spot! Tickets are \$45 per person and include Drinks and Light Bites. Please purchase at pay4schoolstuff.com. All caregivers are welcome to join. Looking forward to a fun evening with old and new friends!

Contact Bonnie Flemming at bonniemflemming@gmail.com or Katie Fuchs at kathrynrothwellfuchs@gmail.com with questions.

The Depot 5th Grade Ice Cream Social

Thursday, October 13th, 4-5:30pm

Don't miss the 5th Grade Ice Cream Social at The Depot on Thursday, October 13 from 4-5:30pm. Kick off the school year with this fun annual party featuring Mr. Softee, DJ, games and more. \$20 admission



[Click Here to Register.](#) Space is limited.

If you have any questions, contact [Elizabeth Hole](#)

Fall Family Photos

Saturday, October 29th



Holiday family photos - check! Fall mini sessions with Royle family-favorite photographer Karen Morneau at Mead Park will be on October 29th.

Register [HERE](#) to reserve a time slot and pay for your session [HERE](#). If payment is not received, the time slot will be forfeited. Karen will send you all your images after the photo shoot, and you can pay her directly for the images you choose. Enjoy!

See the [flyer](#) for more info.

If you have any questions please contact [Monica Silverman](#)

Royle School Weed Beach Clean Up

Tuesday, November 8th



Join us for the Royle School Weed Beach Clean Up on Tuesday, November 8th at 10am (It's Election Day - No School). The Royle Cares Community Outreach Committee will provide plastic bags and gloves for the kids, and whoever collects the most garbage will win a prize! We will be stationed near the playground, so people can stay and play afterwards. Doughnuts and coffee will be served. All students K-5 are welcome. This is not a drop-off event: caregivers should stay. Please email Betsy Champy at elizabeth.champy@gmail.com if you have questions. Sign up using the link below. Hope to see you all there!

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094BA4AB2EA7FD0-weed>

The Royle Garden Needs Your Help!

A green thumb is not necessary. A love for the outdoors and a desire to give your students and staff a beautiful and green outdoor space is all that is required. The garden needs some cleaning up and removal of weeds. And soon it will be time to plant some spring bulbs!



If you would like to help take care of the Royle Garden, please reach out to [Dawn MacDonald](#).

Royle PTO Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

We welcome you to [subscribe](#) to Royle PTO's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion newsletter and visit the [PTO website](#) for more DEI resources and previous newsletter editions.

Darien School District

Upcoming Board Of Education Meetings

Held at 35 Leroy Ave and available to view via Zoom and YouTube. The BOE usually posts links on their website on the day of the meetings.

Tuesday, October 11 @ 7:30 PM

Tuesday, October 25 @ 7:30 PM

Wednesday, November 9 @ 7:30 PM

Board of Ed Notes - School Security Officers (SSOs) Discussion

During the September 27th Darien Board of Education meeting, Superintendent Addley proposed the installation of School Security Officers (SSOs) at each of the District's five elementary schools.

Here is a [link](#) to a replay of the meeting. Discussion of the proposal begins at 52:40. All materials related to the proposal can be found [here](#) starting on page 12.

For further details as to the proposed duties of and funding for these SSOs please [click here](#). All parents/guardians are encouraged to voice their opinions on the proposal to their school PTO Chairs.

Chain Of Communication

Questions or suggestions for DPS? Please use this Chain of Communication guide for school-related matters. [DPS Chain of Communication](#)

Community

P2P Food Drive Postponed

DRIVE-THRU FOOD DRIVE BENEFITTING P2P HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15**. Due to the storm that swept through our region on Saturday, we made the

difficult (yet correct!) decision to postpone this amazing community effort. All details can be found on the NYC website: www.darienct.gov/yc.

Tokeneke Pumpkin Carnival

The 2022 Tokeneke School Pumpkin Carnival returns on **Saturday, October 15th from 10am to 4pm**. Join us as Tokeneke Elementary School is transformed into an amusement park! There are mechanical rides and boardwalk games as well as a variety of lawn games, art activities, face painting, and bounce houses. There will be something for children of all ages. For those seeking a thrill, make sure to try the Cliffhanger and Zero Gravity rides. Preschoolers are sure to love the Spinning Cars and the Happy Swing ride. Play the lawn games and win prizes! Test your stamina on the Nola Physical Therapy + Performance Obstacle Course! Enjoy performances by students of the School of Rock and Dance on the DL. Nosh on delicious food from local Darien restaurants and food trucks. The Tokeneke Parent and Teacher Organization is once again partnering with Darien Human Services to offer the event free of charge to families who would otherwise not be able to attend. Advance discounted tickets and punch cards for lawn games can be purchased [online](#) (no refunds!). Advanced purchase tickets can be picked up at the WILL CALL table on the day of the event.

Darien EMS - Post 53 Haunted House

The Post 53 Haunted House is back! Come join us as we return to providing three different levels of fright on **Sunday October 30th from 2-4pm** at our headquarters 0 Ledge Road, Darien. Get your Halloween costumes ready and join us for a fun filled afternoon with exciting events and fun games for kids of all ages. There will be ambulance tours, pumpkin decorating, face painting, and many more games and treats! CPR/AED training will be offered to any adults or children interested. Suggested donation is \$10 per child and all donations will support Darien EMS-Post 53, Darien's Volunteer Emergency Medical Service staffed with state certified Emergency Medical Technicians, who are Darien High School Students and their Adult Advisors.

Darien Arts Center Fall Classes

[SIP & PAINT: STILL LIFE WORKSHOP](#), For Adults, Friday, Oct. 14, 7-9pm. Bring a friend and refreshments of choice for a great night out! Our fabulous instructor Stephanie Lush-Mastriano will lead the group in creating beautiful still life paintings while everyone enjoys a relaxing evening. Fee: \$55

[SILHOUETTES, EAST COAST CONTEMPORARY BALLET PERFORMANCE](#), Oct. 22, 7:30pm & Oct. 23, 2pm. An all-new mixed repertory program set to music that ranges from classical to contemporary. Join this fresh and innovative company in the DAC Weatherstone Studio. Tickets \$35. DAC Dance students: \$20.

[AUTUMN LEAVES CREATIVE WORKSHOP](#) - For Kindergarten through Grade 3, Friday, Nov. 4, 4-5:30pm.

Students create a colorful decoupage autumn leaf lantern to bring home for the holidays and vibrant leaf print paintings to take home and feature in a November Student Art Exhibit in the downtown CVS window! Fee: \$55.

REGISTRATION IS ONGOING at darienarts.org for classes for ages 3 through adult.

The Darien Arts Center is located at 2 Renshaw Road, behind the Town Hall. Call (203) 655-8683 for more information. We are the *heart of the arts!*

Outdoor Explorers at the Darien Nature Center

Head to the Darien Nature Center for an afternoon exploring the great outdoors! Each class

of this 3-part series will be full of educational fun in nature. Our October theme is Birds! Through hikes, games, exploration, science experiments, and more, students will learn all about birds -- what makes them special and what they are doing this time of year. The session will include bird watching, identification of common birds in CT, and learning about bird migration! To register: dariennaturecenter.org/after-school. Age requirements, dates and times as follows:

Grades 2 - 5

Tuesdays (October 4, 11, 18)
3:30 - 5:00 PM

Grades PreK - 1

(children must be at least 5 years old)
Wednesdays (October 12, 19, 26)
3:30 - 5:00 PM

MPA and YWCA Parent Awareness

Middlesex Parent Association and YWCA Parent Awareness present CONNECTING WITH YOUR TWEEN WHILE THEY ARE STILL LISTENING on Wednesday, October 12th at 7:30PM. Event will feature Darien's own, Dr. Amanda Craig, Marriage and Family Therapist who is the author of "Who Are You & What Have You Done With My Kid?"

Join us for an interactive and engaging workshop where you learn about the unique tween age group and gain tips and tricks to stay connected with your child while also starting to learn to let go. Click [here](#) for more information.

Weekend Meal Program

Darien Human Services participates in a partnership with Filling in the Blanks weekend meal program. Filling in the Blanks is a local non-profit organization that provides food on the weekends to school aged children (www.fillingintheblanks.org). Each packet consists of a variety of nonperishable food items such as oatmeal, granola bars, fruit cups, mac and cheese, canned food, tuna and chips. Meal packets are distributed bi-weekly at Town Hall during designated times to families who struggle with food insecurity.

If you have questions or would like to find out if your family meets eligibility requirements, please contact Darien Human Services 203-656-7328.

The Town of Darien Mental Health Task Force UPDATE

The Town of Darien Mental Health Task Force is hard at work developing programs and resources for our community. The group includes town employees and officials, Darien School District administration, community organizations, religious leaders and mental health professionals. The group has two subcommittees: Behavioral Health Programming and Mental Health Needs Assessment.

Here is an update on some of the programs and resources:

- Out of the Darkness Fairfield County Walk for Suicide Prevention will take place on October 22nd in Westport (Jessup Green). Visit [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention \(AFSP\)](http://AmericanFoundationforSuicidePrevention.org) for more details, including on how to join the walk.

- [International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day](#) is November 19th, and the Town of Darien is developing a program for survivors which will take place at Noroton Presbyterian Church.
- The Behavioral Health Programming subcommittee is developing Resiliency Training programs for teens and their parents, as well as for parents of younger children.
- Ali Ramsteck, Director of Darien Human Services, is working with [The Hub](#) to provide [QPR](#) training for the wider Darien community. The Hub has already delivered this training to all school staff.
- The Mental Health Needs Assessment Subcommittee is researching how to complete a community wide mental health needs assessment survey.

Please visit the Town of Darien's [website](#) for a list of current available mental health resources.

TOGETHER TO Fight SUICIDE

Fairfield County Walk

10:00am - 1:00pm
Jesup Green, Westport
Saturday, October 22nd

Register at www.afsp.org/Fairfieldcounty



Previous [Community Announcements](#) are posted on the PTO website.

Previous Issues of [The Blast](#) are available on the PTO website.

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