

# Rootstown Elementary News

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**Mr. Jeffrey Turner, Principal**

[www.rootstown.sparcc.org](http://www.rootstown.sparcc.org)

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*Rootstown Schools, in collaboration with the community, will provide a quality education in a safe environment for students to become productive, life-long learners.*

Dear Rootstown Community:

It is difficult to believe that the first nine weeks is over and we are moving into the holiday season. It seems like our Open House was just the other day and the school year was about to begin. I am happy to report that the 2018-19 school year is off to a great start.

The report card your child received November 9th measures your child's progress for the first nine weeks of school. Please take the time to discuss your child's report card with your child(ren) and develop a plan for future nine weeks. It is important that your child hears your expectations for future report cards so he/she is in agreement with you. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate reaching out to your child's teacher.

This year we have updated our district and school wide behavior expectations to Rovers are Respectful, Responsible, Role Models. All students have been taught what the expectations are in the main areas of the cafeteria, playground, and restroom. When students demonstrate the expected behaviors, they can earn an R-Card. Students submit their cards into a grade level drawing to earn prizes such as picking who to sit by at lunch, choosing a song to play on the announcements, or choosing my tie for the day! Other various prizes can be chosen in addition to any reward system implemented in your child's classroom. To date, the students seem to be understanding the expectations and are excitedly earning R-Cards throughout the day!

Please contact your child's teacher or me during the year if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mr. Turner  
Principal

[turner@roversk12.org](mailto:turner@roversk12.org)

## **2nd grade Water Safety**

This year, our 2nd grade students participated in a Swim and Water Safety Program at Sequoia! This is a FREE program that is being delivered by the YMCA of Akron and their certified instructors. The program is funded through donations of area corporations so there is no cost for our students to participate! This program aims to reduce drownings and near-drownings in our area. Included in program participation was free transportation of the children to and from Sequoia and the school, 8 one-hour lessons and a free swimsuit for each child. All 2nd grade students participated in lessons one time a week for 8 weeks!



## **Lions Club Good Award Program**

The Lions Club Good Award winners include the following:

**October** - *Alia Thomas*. She is in Mrs. Bartholomy's first grade classroom.

**November** - *Audrey Wohlwend*. She is in Mrs. Svenson's second grade classroom

Students are selected based on their attendance, listening skills, work habits, and citizenship.

Congratulations to you both!

## **Race for Education**

Thank you to the PTA, especially Jamie Matthews and her committee, for their dedication to making this event such a success. Thank you also goes out to our families and community members for their generous donations. Our PTA was able to raise over \$12,000 for our students!



## **Food Drive**

The elementary collected over 2,000 food items that were donated to the Center of Hope in Ravenna on November 19, 2018. The class in each grade that brought in the most goods received a free gym day. Additionally, the leading K-2 (Mrs. Byers) and 3-5 (Mrs. Lewis) classroom received a donut and juice party. Thank you to Mr. Rodstrom and the 5th grade Student Council for coordinating this collection.

The **Food Drive** winning classrooms are as follows:

5th Grade - Mrs. Sutton  
4th Grade - Miss Gearhart  
3rd Grade - Mrs. Lewis  
2nd Grade - Mrs. Dye  
1st Grade - Mrs. Cebulla  
Kindergarten - Mrs. Byers



### **Reporting Absences**

Good attendance patterns are established early in life. We expect our students to be in school every day to take advantage of learning opportunities. If your child must miss school, PLEASE call the school at 330-325-7971. Please report your child off before 9:30 a.m. When your child returns to class, please write a note giving the reason for the absence.

If your child is tardy, he/she must stop in the office to sign in and get a pass to class. Please work on helping your child be prompt. Each of these procedures is required for the safety of our students and to comply with the National Missing Children's Act.

### **Veterans Day 2018**

To celebrate Veterans Day this year, students in the elementary school invited local veterans to come and enjoy breakfast as well as a special Veterans Day program. On Friday, November 9, we welcomed 75 veterans into our building to show our appreciation for their service. As our students enjoyed breakfast alongside their special guest, several kindergarten students led the Pledge of Allegiance and the entire 5th grade performed a patriotic song. The veterans also viewed a video made with the help of Ms. Nyszczyc's media class. Students traveled to the high school where they recorded their special messages using the recording equipment and green screen. Ms. Nyszczyc's class edited the clips, added background music and created the video shown. Anyone wishing to view this video can visit the elementary Facebook page to see it in its entirety.

Though not all students and veterans could take part in the Veterans Day breakfast, all students in grades K-5 were asked to write letters/cards expressing their gratitude. These letters were then mailed to over 150 veterans across the country!

**A special thanks to those who donated food in order to make this event possible:**

**Rootstown Dunkin' Donuts**  
**Rootstown Giant Eagle**  
**Brimfield Walmart**

**Special thanks to Mrs. Kavali and her committee who coordinated this event.**

***Message from Mrs. Ray, School Counselor***



**Red Ribbon Week (Oct. 29th– Nov. 2nd)**

Thank you to all students and staff who participated in special morning announcements to reinforce the importance of staying drug free and healthy!

our fun dress-up days and

## **Student Council**

This is our 3rd year facilitating a 5th grade student council. Mrs. Burrell and I meet with the group two Tuesdays a month after school. Within the group, students formed smaller committees to focus on concerns such as recess equipment, student lunch monitors, community service to help the Haven of Rest with donations, planning Red Ribbon Week, an anti-bullying focus and other various ideas. The students are showing great responsibility and initiative in being leaders in the school!

## **Anti-Bullying and Kindness**

In conjunction with the Anti-Bullying initiative by the student council, all classrooms in the building have focused on what it means to bully and how kindness can prevent this. In Kindergarten - 1st grade, we are focusing on practicing being Bucket Fillers and doing kind things for others after reading *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* In 2nd - 3rd grade we are focusing on sharing kindness daily and not being mean or a bully after reading *The Jelly Donut Difference* and *Spaghetti in a Hot Dog Bun*. Lastly, in 4th - 5th grade, we are focusing on what it means to be a bully and a bystander, as well as how kindness can stop these actions after reading *The Juice Box Bully*. These students also watched The Kindness Boomerang and are making kindness chains to add to throughout the year.

## **Fit Club**

This year our building is fortunate enough to have NEOMED students lead fitness activities with our 4th and 5th grade students. Fit Club is held two Wednesdays of every month! This is our sixth year hosting Fit Club. All of the students and staff all are enjoying the experience!

## **Student Services**

As the counselor in the building, I offer student services such as individual counseling on a short term basis and group counseling on topics such as friendship, anger management, social skills, and anxiety management. If you would like for your child to participate in any of these activities, please contact me at 330-325-2011 or ray@roversk12.org.



## **Lost and Found**

If your child is missing any clothing, please feel free to visit the **Lost and Found** container located near the main office.

## **Fall Parties**

Thank you to all of the volunteers for making our fall parties special for the students on October 26, 2018.



### ***Mrs. Polack – Rootstown Elementary Library***

Parents, please send in photo copies of photos of your child reading in their favorite spot or reading to their pet. Photo copies because the photos are going to be stapled to create a bulletin board in the library. Put your child's name, grade, and teacher on the back of the photo.

Thank you to PTA for the opportunity of purchasing 4 floor bicycles for students to use while they are reading. Currently students earn the book bikes for following 3R behavior. Thank you to Madix Sporck from Miss West's class for coming up with the name for the floor bikes, "Book Bikes." PTA also allowed for the purchase of 4 floor chairs that students can use throughout the room.

STORIA is now available for fourth and fifth grade students through INFOhio. Stora is a collection of ebooks that have been chosen for their grade levels. Students have been given their usernames and passwords and have practiced using the system.

INFOhio is a free digital system of numerous age appropriate research databases and reading improvement resources. Have your children use quality factual Internet sources for homework reading practice and projects.

Plans for the Book Fair are in the beginning stages. The Book Fair is scheduled over 2 weeks: February 4-12, with volunteer options beginning on Friday, February 1 for set up. Volunteers help make for a successful Book Fair. There is a need for a volunteer that could be there most of the time to run the cash register. If you are interested in volunteering for the Book Fair, please contact Mrs. Polack by either email: [polack@roversk12.org](mailto:polack@roversk12.org) or phone: 330-325-7971.



### ***FROM THE CLINIC - Mrs. Baldwin***

#### ***Children and Social Media***

School age children and adolescents are growing up immersed in the world of social media. Social media can be accessed through TV, smartphones, video games and computers. Research suggests media use does have benefits, but also has risks to the health of the children. Benefits include exposure to new ideas, immediate social contact and access to health information. Regrettably, the risks include a negative impact on weight, sleep and exposure to inaccurate and inappropriate material. It comes as no surprise that parents monitoring social media are challenged on a daily basis.

When it comes to setting guidelines for healthy media, The Academy of Pediatrics advises that each child is different and there is no “one size fits all” plan. Therefore, parents are encouraged to create a Family Media Use Plan ([www.healthychildren.org/MediaUsePlan](http://www.healthychildren.org/MediaUsePlan)) which will establish guidelines and boundaries based on the child’s developmental stage. In addition to the Media Plan, the Academy suggests the following:

- Parents routinely revisit the Family Media Plan and make adjustment as necessary.
- Place consistent limits on hours per day of media use as well as types of media used.
- Allow at least 1 hour per day of physical activity and 8-12 hours of sleep
- Avoid exposure to media 1 hour before bedtime & not allow any devices in the room during sleep.
- Discourage media use during homework.
- Designate media-free time together and media-free rooms in your home.
- Select and co-view media with your child.

#### **The Elementary School saves the following:**

- ❖ Akron Children’s Hospital (Pop tabs collection)
- ❖ Acme Receipts- Community Cashback Program  
August 9, 2018 through December 29, 2018
- ❖ Box Tops for Education
- ❖ Giant Eagle (register at Giant Eagle - ID# 0927)
- ❖ Target Stores (ID# 84909)
- ❖ Coca-Cola Give Packaging/Plastic pop bottle caps - 1. Scan codes from your phone at [www.coke.com](http://www.coke.com); 2. From the Coke website at [www.coke.com](http://www.coke.com); and 3. Send in to the school, place in donation drawer.

**These items can be sent to school with your child.**



**Earn cash for our school by sending in all your Box Tops for our February 2019 deadline.**

**Help us reach our next goal of \$2,000.00!**

***Don't forget to collect from your family and friends!***

**Important Dates**

December 2018	
10	Holiday Concert 2nd & 4th Grades at High School - 7:00 p.m.
11-13	Santa Shop
14	Santa Shop Community Night 5:30-7:30 p.m.
17	Santa Shop Make-up Day
21	Holiday Parties
24 - 28	Winter Break
January 2019	
1-4	Winter Break
7	School resumes
18	End of 2nd Grading Period
21	No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
25	Report Cards go home
February 2019	
4-12	Book Fair
14	Valentine Parties
15	No School for Students - Staff Professional Development
18	No School - Presidents' Day
22	Interims Distributed
22	Mother/Son Dance (more information at a later date)
23	Father/Daughter Dance (more information at a later date)