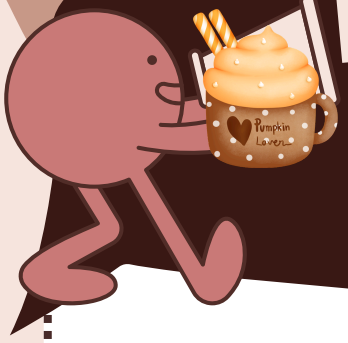


ILLINOIS CITY

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

YOUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER ABOUT OUR SCHOOL!

IMPORTANT INFO:

- YOU CAN PAY REGISTRATION FEES THROUGH YOUR LUMEN ACCOUNT OR DROP A CHECK (MADE OUT TO ROCKRIDGE #300) OR CASH IN THE OFFICE.
- IF YOU NEED A FEE WAIVER OR REDUCTION FORM PLEASE ASK IN AT THE OFFICE
- REMINDER TO HAVE YOUR STUDENT HERE BY 8:05 TO PREVENT TRUANCY
- REMINDER: DO NOT ENTER THE PARKING LOT WITH BUSES LOADING/UNLOADING. IF YOU WALK YOUR CHILD TO THE DOOR PLEASE PARK IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL, NOT IN THE PARKING LOT SO THAT OUR BUSES CAN COME AND GO AS NEEDED.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SEPT 24 - HOMECOMING PARADE

SEPT 25 - HOMECOMING GAME

SEPT 25 - SIP DAY 11:30 DISMISSAL

OCT 2 - PICTURE DAY

OCT 9 - SIP 11:30 DISMISSAL

FULL CALENDAR HERE

CLICK HERE

RR300.ORG/O/ICES

TIMES

SCHOOL START: 8:05
SCHOOL END: 3:12
CAR RIDERS: 3:12

CONTACT US

MR BIZARRI - JBIZARRI@RR300.ORG
MRS ZAMPOGNA - KZAMPOGNA@RR300.ORG
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24017 122ND AVE W
ILLINOIS CITY, IL 61259

ILLINOIS CITY ELEMENTARY

Principal's Corner



Thank you for all of your patience and efforts while we experienced early dismissal days and no-school days with all the recent heat wave temperatures. Students seemed eager to return to school on Tuesday, September 8, to see friends and staff and get back to school. It's a good thing they were ready to return because it has been a busy week. This week, we had our first Mission Control sessions, which are intervention and enrichment sessions designed around and with the new CKLA/Amplify reading curriculum that began during the 24-25 school year The district is excited to work with students in this innovative "rotation approach" that meets students where they are with their reading/language arts skills and helps them grow. Students participatie in three rotations during the session, which may occur in one of their grade level classrooms or Mrs. Stice's room. In addtion to the efforts with Mission Control this week, we have also worked on finishing up MAP testing sessions in reading and math, so we will be diving into the data to see where our students are at and how we can continue to help them grow. If you have questions about Mission Control sessions or the MAP assessements, please feel comfortable reaching out to your student's teacher. Finally, after having the first student council meeting postponed last week, we were able to have our first official meeting this past Wednesday. Classroom teachers nominate one girl and one boy to participate, so a group of 12 students meet with me once a week and have an "offiical meeting" - complete with a gavel and block and role call and action items and discussion items. Students serve a term of about 7-9 weeks, and then a new student council is formed. In this way students get to represent their classroom "constitutents" and offer feedback and ideas for consideration. On Monday, September 21, I'd like to invite parents/guardians to visit IC Elementary for an "information night". In past years, I have provided a tour of the building, provided information on "new stuff", and have been available to answer questions.

Link to possible agenda items -- https://docs.google.com/document/d/1n7ztdmjCebl5-bCtWwgMErG1DeVyDTymwq5IRAovKQA/edit?tab=t.0

-Mr. Bizarri





IMPORTANT

STUDENTS AT THE KINDERGARTEN THROUGH FIFTH GRADE LEVELS MUST BRING AND WEAR GYM SHOES FOR PE. FOR STUDENTS WHO CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN PE DUE TO INJURY, THEY MUST HAVE A DOCTOR'S NOTE ON FILE. IT IS IDEAL THESE ARE NOT SLIP ON RUBBER-SOLED SHOES SUCH AS HEY DUDES. THE SHOES SHOULD FIT SNUG AND SECURE ENOUGH TO NOT FLIP OFF THEIR FEET.

ROCKRIDGE ELEMENTARY HANDBOOK LINK

ROCKRIDGE ROCKETS

September 2026 Lunch Menu *for All Buildings*

MENUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1 Pretzel Bites w/ Cheese Sauce Cooked Carrots Strawberries / Milk	2 Quesadilla Chips & Salsa Corn / Grapes Milk	3 Walking Taco (Meat. Lettuce, Cheese) Mixed Fruit Teddy Grahams / Milk	4 Cheeseburger on Bun French Fries Apple Slices Cookie / Milk
7 **No School** **Labor Day**	8 *Breakfast for Lunch* Biscuit & Gravy Tri-Taters Fruit Cup Granola Bar Milk	9 Chicken Patty on Bun Baked Chips Green Beans Mandarin Oranges Milk	10 Pizza Mixed Vegetables Applesauce Cup Teddy Grahams Milk	11 Crispitos Chips & Salsa Corn / Peaches Pudding Cup Milk
14 Chicken Nuggets Tater Tots Fruit Cup Sherbet Cup Milk	15 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Goldfish Crackers Grapes Milk	16 French Bread Pizza Side Salad (dressing) Strawberries Cookie Milk	17 Meatball Sub w/ Mozzarella Cheese Baked Chips Green Beans / Peaches Milk	18 Uncrustable Baked Chips Carrots Apple Slices Milk
21 Pizza Crunchers Goldfish Crackers Corn Pears Milk	22 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Green Beans Bread Stick Fruit Cup Milk	23 Hotdog on Bun Baked Beans Baked Chips / Peaches Pudding Cup Milk	24 Sloppy Joe on Bun Mixed Vegetables Mixed Fruit Rice Krispy Treat Milk	25 **School Improvement Day** **11:30am Dismissal**
28 Bosco Stick / Marinara Cooked Carrots Fruit Cup Teddy Grahams Milk	29 Hamburger on Bun French Fries Mandarin Oranges Fruit Snacks Milk	30 Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes Pineapples Cookie Milk	A reimbursable lunch menu consists of 5 offered components which are set by the new USDA meal pattern in certain varieties and portion sizes determined by student age. Meat/Meat Alternate minimum, Grain minimum, Vegetable, Fruit, Fluid Milk. Skim, Chocolate and 1% White milk served everyday	



SEPTEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 No School Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Dental Theater	24 Homecoming Parade	25 SIP 11:30 Dismissal Homecoming Game	26 PTO FUN RUN
27	28	29	30			



OCTOBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Picture Day	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 SIP 11:30 Dismissal End of Grading	10
11	12 No School Columbus Day	13	14	15	16 Report Cards Fire Safety Day	17
18	19	20	21	22 2nd Grade Field Trip	23	24
25	26 Book Fair	27 Book Fair	28 Book Fair	29 Book Fair PT Conferences 1:30 Dismissal	30 Book Fair PT Conferences No School	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Homecoming Parade DATE: Thursday, September 24th

PARADE START TIME: 5:30pm

Homecoming Game DATE: Friday, September 25th

START TIME: 7:00 pm

Fall Picture Day 2026 is here!

When: October 2nd, 2026

Just a reminder! ALL picture orders are online ordering only!

Link to Order: https://inter-state.com/FlyerEntry

Each School has their own code. See below:

Illinois City Elementary School: 0556VYF

Taylor Ridge Elementary School: 0556XYF

Andalusia Elementary School: 0557KPF

Rockridge Junior High School: 0557RDF

Rockridge High School: 0557YNF

If you have questions, please reach out to your building's secretary.



Retake:

11/16/2026

MUSIC NEWS

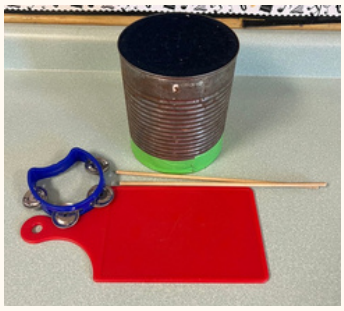
EMAIL:
awinn@rr300.org

HELLO, FAMILIES!

My name is Anna Winn and I am your child's music teacher this year! This is my 3rd year teaching at both Taylor Ridge and Illinois City. I am very excited for the year ahead, and to continue seeing each class every day for 20 minutes of music. My hope is that throughout the year, students will develop a love and appreciation for music while building skills through singing, movement, listening, and playing instruments. I will put out a newsletter once per quarter with info and updates on what's happening in the music room :)

PLAYING:





This quarter we will be doing a lot of activities that reinforce expectations when it comes to playing unpitched percussion instruments (pictured above). Games like "Silent Instrument Ninja" help students practice keeping instruments quiet until it's time to play. Kindergarten will participate in a farm unit where each instrument is represented by a different animal. They will learn how to play the above instruments properly and will learn lots of animal songs.

1st & 2nd graders will also use can stations - kind of like a mini drum set

SINGING:

Learning about the different types of voices and how we use them is a big focus at the beginning of the year, especially in kindergarten. Puppets will be used to help kids gain confidence in their singing voices, and children's books will be used for more vocal exploration. Some I will use this fall include We're Going on a Bear Hunt, Fortunately, and the Listening Walk.

MOVEMENT:

Being able to keep a steady beat is an essential 1st quarter skill, as students will need this skill for the rest of the year in music. Kids will practice steady beat through locomotor and non-locomotor movement and passing games. We will also use our steady "BEET" friend (below) when learning a new song to show where the beat is.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The K-2 Holiday Program will be held the evening of Wednesday, December 16th. More details to follow in the coming months.



TR/IC SEL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026

Respect

This month's focus is Respect. One way to think about Respect is "seeing value in all people and things & treating them with care." Throughout the school, students will be developing skills like perspective-taking, conflict resolution, and leadership.

Kindergarten:

Listening to others is an important life skill – and it takes practice! In Kindergarten, we are focusing on listening skills this month. Being a good listener helps us show Respect to other people and treat them with care.

First Grade:

Friendship skills are life skills! In 1st grade this month, we are focusing on friendship. An important part of being a good friend is seeing value in others and treating them with care, which is practicing Respect!

Second Grade:

We all experience conflict in life. Whether we are frustrated with a friend or in an argument with a family member, we need tools to help us navigate conflict successfully. This month's focus for 2nd grade is on understanding conflict resolution through practicing Respect for others. This month, students will practice using the Tree of Choices, which is a simple tool to lead us toward successful conflict resolution

Skills:

Great listeners have:

1. Eyes are ready.
2. Ears are listening.
3. Brain is focused
4. Heart is caring

Tree of Choices:

1. The Roots of the Tree: Identifying if the problem is big or small.
2. The Heart of the Tree: Naming the emotions you are feeling.
3. The Branches of the Tree: Make a choice to:

Move it out
Talk it out
Breathe it out

Conversation Starts

- Can you share or show what Respect means?
- Why do you think it is important to use Strong Listening when practicing Respect?
- Why do you think it is important to be Respectful as a friend?
- Tell me about the Tree of Choices. Which part is easiest for you? Most challenging?

Thank you,

Mrs. Sywassink & Mrs. Stice

STUDENT COUNCIL

We're happy you are here!





ICE Car Rider Procedure

MORNING PROCEDURES:

- ****Avoid the parking lot when buses are loading or unloading****
- Car riders should arrive NO earlier than 7:40.
- The school day begins promptly at 8:05 am. Breakfast is over at 8:05.
- Enter the parking lot on the West end (Baseball diamond) Exit through the East end when buses are NOT in the parking lot.
- Parents should remain in their car at drop off.
- Students will enter through the front doors.
- Parents MUST stop at the office and not go on to their students classroom for the safety of the other students and staff.
- It is unlawful to go around or pass a school bus when the STOP ARM or STOP HAND is out. Even if the bus is in the parking lot!!

AVOID DRIVING OR WALKING ON EAST SIDE OF THE PARKING LOT WHEN BUSES ARE LOADING OR UNLOADING!

AFTERNOON PROCEDURES:

- Parents will line up along the baseball diamond. (West entrance).
- Parents will remain in their cars in the pick up line, our staff will get your child to your car around 3:15 once the early buses leave.
- Watch out for busses. (Our late buses load/unload approx 3:30)

ROCKRIDGE

School Break Planner

2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Labor Day	***3 DAY WEEKEND*** SEPT 5-7 - NO SCHOOL
Columbus Day	***3 DAY WEEKEND*** OCT 10-12 - NO SCHOOL
P/T Conferences	***4 DAY WEEKEND*** OCT 30-NOV 2 - NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Break	***5 DAY WEEKEND*** NOV 25-29 - NO SCHOOL
Christmas Break	***14 DAY BREAK*** DEC 23-JAN 6 - NO SCHOOL
MLK Day	***3 DAY WEEKEND*** JAN 16-18 - NO SCHOOL
President's Day	***3 DAY WEEKEND*** FEB 13-15 - NO SCHOOL
Spring & Easter Break	***8 DAY BREAK*** MAR 22-29 - NO SCHOOL

Join our team!

WE ARE HIRING SUBSTITUTES

Great pay, flexible hours, & a LOT of fun!

Contact Dawn Finley to find out more!
309-793-8001
dfinley@rr300.org



Do not hesitate to reach out and ask questions!

HIRING SUBS FOR: TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS, SECRETARY, KITCHEN, BUS DRIVERS, NURSE