Taylor Ridge Elementary School

Updates and Information

Happy Friday, TRE Families and Friends!

Next week, we are only in session on Monday and Tuesday. There will be no school on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

We have a ton to be thankful for at TRE and hope that you and yours have a Happy Thanksgiving!

“Nurse Notes” are attached below.

Please check out the information below regarding the K-2 Holiday Concert, as well as the music newsletter.

As always, if you have any questions for us at TRE, feel free to contact the office at (309) 793-8070 or tgoben@rr300.org

-Mr. Goben

Important Dates for this Week / Near Future

Thanksgiving Break - No school 11/25 - 11/27

Winter Family Night - 12/10 @ RRHS

K-2 Music Program - Wed. 12/16

SCHOOL HEALTH GUIDELINES: STAYING HEALTHY AT SCHOOL

MONITORING STUDENT WELLNESS

Monitor your students closely for contagious illnesses and follow the guidelines below. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the school and talk to the health office.

Symptom	Stay Home If	Go Back to School After
Cough and Cold Symptoms	Too sick for regular activities	Fever is gone for 24 hours without medication and your child feels better
Eye Discharge	Yellow or green pus appears	24 hours after the first dose of antibiotic drops have been given.
Fever	Temperature reads 100°F or higher	No fever above 100°F with using fever reducing medication for 24 hours.
Flu Like Symptoms	Body aches, fever, severe fatigue, persistent cough, excessive nasal drainage	No fever above 100°F with using fever reducing medication for 24 hours. Feels well enough to participate in classroom.
Rash	Please ensure that any new onset of a rash is evaluated by a healthcare provider before your student comes to school	24 hours after medication started (if needed) and doctor gives okay to return to school.
Sore Throat	Strep throat diagnosis	24 hours after beginning antibiotics.
Stomachache	Vomited more than once or had diarrhea more than twice in last 24 hours	24 hours after no vomiting or diarrhea without medication.

Amanda Lewis RHS, RJHS
Jesssica Stubbs, Andalusia & Taylor Ridge
Kristin Tucker, Illinois City Elementary

Taylor Ridge Elementary &
Illinois City Elementary

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16TH

KINDERGARTEN	5:30 PM
1ST GRADE	6:15 PM
2ND GRADE	7:00 PM

ALL PERFORMANCES WILL TAKE PLACE IN
THE ROCKRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH GYM

Music News

November 2026

Dear families,

Some very exciting things have been happening in the music room this fall! Here is another quarterly update on what your kids have been learning, We are getting into Holiday Program season next, so be on the lookout for plenty of details / updates in the coming weeks!

Ms. Winn
awinn@rr300.org

Singing / Voices

- Five Little Pumpkins – speaking chant with actions to practice the different types of voices
- Pumpkin Stew – kids sang by themselves to add their ingredient to the stew!
- Vocal Exploration ghosts – Kindergarteners created ghosts on popsicle sticks that they used for singing high and low sounds



Steady Beat and Rhythm

- Pass the Pumpkin – pass to the steady beat… if the pumpkin lands on you, you're out! Students who are out play the rhythm on instruments.
- In the Hall of the Mountain King – students experienced a steady beat that changes from slow to fast

Form

"Form" in music is like the map of the song. 1st and 2nd grade practiced identifying different sounding sections of The Addams Family Theme Song, then demonstrated the form with a cup passing routine. All students practiced identifying form by playing a movement game to the song Fossils.



Instruments

- Autumn is Here – each fall item in the song has its own instrument sound effect. Kids took turns with each one.
- The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything – a spooky sound story where students played instruments and can stations as sound effects
- Up the Creaky Stairs – Boomwhackers

Veterans Day

First performance of the year! Students sang "Soldier, This Song I Sing for You"at the district Veterans Day assembly and sounded amazing! Watch their performance HERE.



Holiday Program

Kids have been working hard the last couple of weeks to learn their Holiday Program music. As in recent years, each grade is preparing their own set of songs. The program is on the evening of Wednesday, **December 16th** with an afternoon rehearsal / grandparent performance.





December Menus

December 2026 Breakfast Menu *for All Buildings*

MENUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

*Served Daily: cereal, toast, fruit or juice & milk

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
30 	1 Mini Pancakes	2 Scrambled Eggs & Bacon	3 French Toast Sticks	4 Biscuits & Gravy
7 Breakfast Bagel Pizza	8 Breakfast Burrito	9 Muffin String Cheese	10 Pancake Sausage On a Stick	11 Cheese Omelet & Toast
14 French Toast Sticks	15 Biscuits & Gravy	16 Mini Pancakes	17 Breakfast Burrito	18 Scrambled Eggs & Bacon
21 Cheese Omelet & Toast	22 Pancake Sausage On a Stick	23 **No School Holiday Break**	24 **No School Holiday Break**	25 **No School** 
28 **No School Holiday Break**	29 **No School Holiday Break**	30 **No School Holiday Break**	31 **No School Holiday Break**	1 **No School** 

Skim, Chocolate and 1% White milk served everyday

December 2026 Lunch Menu *for All Buildings*

Skim, Chocolate and 1% White milk served everyday

MENUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
30 	1 Mini Corn Dog Baked Beans Grapes Teddy Graham Milk	2 Pretzel Bites w/ Cheese Sauce Mixed Veggies Apple Slices Milk	3 French Bread Pizza Side Salad (ranch) Mixed Fruit Gold Fish Crackers Milk	4 Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Sandwich Soup Crackers Carrots / Fruit Cup Milk
7 Super Nacho Chips / Salsa Refried Beans Mandarin Oranges Milk	8 Chicken Strips Green Beans Peaches Pudding Cup Milk	9 Cheeseburger on Bun Baked Chips Carrots Pears Milk	10 Crispito Corn Pineapple Cookie Milk	11 **School Improvement Day 11:30a Dismissal**
14 Bosco Stick w/ Marinara Sauce Green Beans Mixed Fruit Milk 	15 Walking Taco (Meat, Cheese, Lettuce, Tomatoes) Cantaloupe Milk	16 (TR & IC Subject to Change) Pizza Corn Grapes Teddy Grahams Milk	17 Chicken & Noodles Mashed Potatoes Peaches / Dinner Roll Dessert Milk	18 Hotdog on Bun Baked Beans Apple Slices Goldfish Crackers Milk
21 Chicken Nuggets Tater Tots Pears Pudding Cup / Milk	22 **1:30pm Dismissal** Uncrustable Baked Chips Carrots Fruit Cup / Milk	23 **No School Holiday Break**	24 **No School Holiday Break**	25 **No School** 
28 **No School Holiday Break**	29 **No School Holiday Break**	30 **No School Holiday Break**	31 **No School Holiday Break**	1 **No School** 

Help support a Rockridge family!



CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE A SHIRT!

HELP A ROCKRIDGE FAMILY AND A FUTURE ROCKET!

Miles' family is selling these shirts to help support Miles and his fight. Every shirt purchased is another way to show love, spread awareness, and remind Miles that he has an entire squad standing behind him!

Order Deadline: Nov. 20th



ILLINOIS CITY & TAYLOR RIDGE ELEMENTARY

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

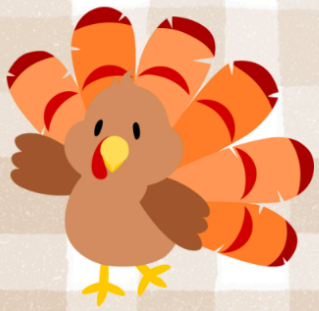
Santa Story Time, Make A Craft, and Cookies! Pre-K will end the evening with a song at 6:30.

DECEMBER 10, 2026
FROM 4:30 PM TO 6:30 PM
WHERE: ROCKRIDGE HS CAFETERIA

OPEN TO OUR ROCKET FAMILIES! LET'S GET THIS HOLIDAY SEASON STARTED!

TR/ICE SEL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2026



Gratitude

Kindergarten

Naming our emotions is an important first step to managing our emotions. This month, Kindergarten students will focus on identifying their emotions using the Emotion Elements.

First Grade

Understanding how we are feeling helps us build self-awareness. This month, 1st grade students will work on emotion awareness by using the Emotion Elements. We will also use body cues to help us accurately identify our emotions.

Second Grade

It's important to be able to understand and manage our emotions. This month, 2nd graders will use the Emotion Elements to name their emotions, and practice applying strategies to regulate their emotions.

Emotion Elements

- **Bree** represents feeling silly, nervous, playful, or distracted.
- **Brooks** represents feeling sad, lonely, tired, or embarrassed.
- **Ember** represents feeling angry, frustrated, excited, or scared.
- **Terra** represents emotions like calm, focused, proud, or happy.

Overview

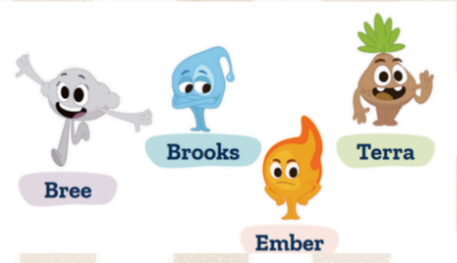
We are looking forward to focusing on Gratitude this month! One way to think about Gratitude is "choosing to appreciate the people and things in our lives." Practicing Gratitude can increase our well-being and our happiness. Gratitude is 1 of 3 traits we will focus on throughout the year that helps students Be Well. Throughout the school, students will be developing skills like emotion regulation, positive self-talk, and stress management.

Emotion Regulation Strategies

- Breathe It Out - take a nice deep breath or try out a specific breathing strategy
- Move It Out - move away from the situation or get some exercise
- Talk It Out - talk to a trusted adult about how you feel

Be Kind, Be Strong, Be Well,

Mrs. Sywassink & Mrs. Stice



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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 5 - 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

2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR
ROCKRIDGE COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT 300

August 12 ..... No School Teacher Institute
August 13 ..... No School Teacher Institute
August 14 ..... .Classes Begin – 1:30 dismissal
September 7 ..... No School – Labor Day
September 11 ..... Quarter 1 Mid-Term
September 25 ..... School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
October 9 ..... End of First Grading Period
October 9 ..... School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
October 12 ..... No School – Columbus Day
October 16 ..... Quarter 1 Report Cards Sent Home
October 29 ..... Parent-Teacher Conferences-3:00–8:00 p.m.
October 29 ..... 1:30 dismissal
October 30 ..... Parent-Teacher Conferences-8:00–1:00 p.m.
October 30 ..... No School – P/T Conferences
November 2 ..... No School – in lieu of P/T Conferences
November 13 ..... Quarter 2 Mid-Term
November 25-27 ..... No School – Thanksgiving Break
December 11 ..... School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
December 22 ..... End of Second Grading Period – 1:30 dismissal
December 23-January 5 ..... No School – Holiday Break
January 6 ..... No School Teacher Institute
January 7 ..... School Resumes
January 11 ..... Quarter 2 Report Cards Sent Home
January 15 ..... School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
January 18 ..... No School – M.L. King's Birthday
February 5 ..... Quarter 3 Mid-Term
February 12 ..... School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
February 15 ..... No School – President's Day
March 12 ..... End of Third Grading Period
March 19 ..... School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
March 19 ..... Quarter 3 Report Cards Sent Home
March 22-March 29 ..... No School – Spring Break/Easter Break
April 9 ..... School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
April 9 ..... Quarter 4 Mid-Term
April 23 ..... School Improvement Day – 11:30 dismissal
May 16 ..... High School Graduation – 2:00
May 25 ..... End of Fourth Grading Period (tentative) – 1:30 dismissal
May 26 ..... No School Teacher Institute (tentative)
May 27, 28 ..... Emergency Days (tentative)
June 1 ..... Quarter 4 Report Cards Sent Home (tentative)

Quarterly Attendance Report Periods are as follows:

DATES	NUMBER OF STUDENT DAYS SCHOOL IS IN SESSION
August 14 – October 9	37
October 13 – December 22	46
January 7 – March 12	45
March 15 – May 25	46

BOE Approved 9.14.2026