

Taylor Ridge Elementary School

Updates and Information

Happy Friday TRE Families and Friends.

Today marks our 67th day of school! Celebrate accordingly!

Please check out the flyer from Miss Winn regarding the upcoming K-2 Holiday Concert.

If you have a student who will be entering Kindergarten next year, please click this link and fill out the form!

[🌐 Kindergarten Interest Form 2026-2027](#)

Yearbook Information is attached in this newsletter.

Thanksgiving Break is next week!! There will be no newsletter next week. December breakfast and lunch menus are attached at the bottom of this week's message. Have a great holiday!

As always, if you have any questions for us at TRE feel free to contact the office at (309)-793-8070. Have a great weekend!

-Mr. Goben

Important Dates for this Week/Near Future

No School - 11/26-11/28 - Thanksgiving Break

Holiday Program - 12/10 - Rockridge HS South Gym

Taylor Ridge Elementary &
Illinois City Elementary

Holiday Program

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 2025

KINDERGARTEN 5:30PM

1ST GRADE 6:15PM

2ND GRADE 7:00PM

All performances will take
place in the Rockridge High
School South Gym.



TR/IC SEL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025

Grade-level learning

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 is also an important way to practice Empathy. We will learn and practice these Strong Listening strategies at school. Try them at home with your student!

FIRST GRADE

Friendship skills are life skills! In 1st grade, we are focusing on being a good friend. Understanding and connecting to other people's feelings (practicing Empathy) is a powerful way to grow in friendship. Friendship skills we are working on: Communicating with Kindness and understanding how our actions impact others. Talk about friendship with your student and the importance of connecting with others!

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 the lens of Empathy. Students will practice using the Tree of Choices, which is a simple tool to lead us toward successful conflict resolution.

Empathy Overview

This month's focus is Empathy. One way to think about **Empathy** is **"understanding and connecting with other people's feelings."** Empathy is a practice that can help us grow strong relationships. Empathy is 1 of 3 traits we will focus on throughout the year that helps students Be Kind. Throughout the school, students will be developing skills like perspective-taking, conflict resolution, and leadership.

STRONG LISTENING

- Eyes are ready.
- Ears are listening
- Brain is focused
- Heart is caring

TREE OF CHOICES

The Roots: is the problem big or small?

The Heart of the Tree: name your emotions

The Branches: make choice (move it out, breath it out, talk it out).

Be Kind, Be Strong, Be Well

Miss Noe &
Mrs. Sywassink



Music News

October 2025

Miss Winn



awinn@rr300.org

Dear families,
Your K-2 students have been learning and growing every day in music class! While this doesn't include *everything* we've done, here is an overview of how your kids have been playing, singing, moving, and creating this fall.

Playing

Kids have been brushing up on their small percussion instrument skills. We have worked a lot on proper instrument technique and care, and have practiced during the song Autumn is Here, as well as other fall play along songs.



Creating

Students created sound effects to go along with the Halloween story, The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything. 1st and 2nd grade used their can stations and Kindergarten used a variety of classroom instruments. Also, kindergarten created their own verses to the song, Spider on the Floor, while using fake spiders to match the words.



Singing

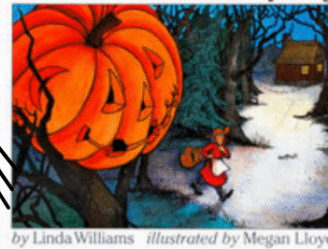
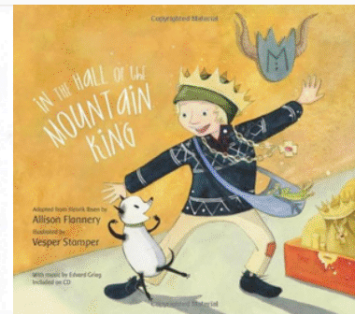
Autumn is Here, Pass the Witch's Broomstick, and Pass the Pumpkin are songs that have had students singing confidently and independently. The two passing games are always big hits that improve steady beat skill. I was so impressed with them!



Moving

All students enjoyed hearing the story and moving to the beat of Edvard Grieg's "In the Hall of the Mountain King". It gets faster as the song goes on, so they needed to move quickly to keep up! Kindergarten explored calm scarf movement to Fall songs. 1st and 2nd grade also learned about musical form while performing a cup routine to the Addams Family theme song.

The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything



K-2 Holiday Program

The program will be on the evening of **December 10th**, with an afternoon dress rehearsal/grandparents performance. Performance times are as follows:

- Kindergarten: 5:30pm
- 1st Grade: 6:15pm
- 2nd Grade: 7:00pm

Program flyer and more details to come...

What's Next?

- Veterans Day music - students are currently preparing to sing a song at the Veterans Day Assembly at RHS.
- Winter Program music- Each grade will be working on their own songs to share in December. Students will be moving, singing, AND playing as they prepare for their performances.



November 2025 Breakfast Menu for All Buildings

**MENUS SUBJECT
TO CHANGE**

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
27	28 	29 Served Daily: cereal, toast, fruit or juice & milk	30 	31
3 Breakfast Burrito	4 Whole Grain Pop-Tart	5 Cereal Bar String Cheese	6 French Toast Sticks Sugar Free Syrup	7 Breakfast Pizza
10 Mini Pancakes Sugar Free Syrup	11 Cheese Omelet Toast 	12 Bagel & Cream Cheese	13 Cereal Bar String Cheese	14 Breakfast Burrito
17 Breakfast Pizza	18 Scrambled Eggs, Bacon & Toast	19 Whole Grain Pop-Tart	20 Cheese Omelet Toast	21 Bacon, Egg & Cheese Biscuit
24 French Toast Sticks Sugar Free Syrup	25 Biscuits & Gravy	26 No School Thanksgiving Break	27 No School 	28 No School Thanksgiving Break

Skim, Chocolate and 1% White milk served everyday



November 2025 Lunch Menu for All Buildings

**MENUS SUBJECT
TO CHANGE**

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
27 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	28 29	29	30 	31 
3 Bosco Stick / Marinara Cooked Carrots Pineapple Pudding Cup Milk	4 <i>Breakfast for Lunch</i> Biscuits & Gravy Tri-Taters Orange Granola Bar Milk	5 Chicken Patty on Bun Baked Chips Side Salad (dressing) Grapes Milk	6 Beef Ravioli Bread Stick Green Beans Apple Slices (PB) Milk	7 Hamburger on Bun Baked Beans Fruit Cup Fruit Snacks Milk
10 Chicken Nuggets Mixed Vegetables Peaches Sherbet Cup Milk	 11 Mini Corn Dog Baked Beans Goldfish Crackers Mandarin Oranges Milk	12 French Bread Pizza Corn Applesauce Cup Teddy Grahams Milk	13 Chicken & Noodles Mashed Potatoes Peaches / Dinner Roll Pumpkin Dessert Milk	14 School Improvement Day 11:30 am Dismissal
17 Pizza Crunchers Green Beans Mandarin Oranges Cookie Milk	18 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Side Salad (dressing) Bread Stick Pears Milk	19 Crispito Chips & Salsa Corn / Grapes Pudding Cup Milk	20 Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Sandwich Crackers Fruit Cup Milk	21 Rocket Rite on Bun Baked Chips Baked Beans Apple Slices Milk
24 Cheeseburger on Bun Tater Tots Peaches Fruit Snack / Milk	25 Uncrustable Baked Chips Carrots / Fruit Cup Fruit Snack / Milk	26 No School Thanksgiving Break	27 No School 	28 No School Thanksgiving Break

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WELCOME

Future Kindergarteners

2026-2027



DO YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW HAVE A STUDENT WHO WILL BE ENTERING KINDERGARTEN IN THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR?! PLEASE SHARE THIS [LINK](#) FOR THEM TO FILL OUT TO HELP THE DISTRICT PLAN FOR THE UPCOMING CLASS OF 2039!



ORDER YOUR
YEARBOOK
ONLINE
TODAY!



INTER-STATE.COM/ORDER

Use Order Code: 0336EC
Orders Due By: Friday, April 3, 2026

YEARBOOKS AVAILABLE

\$20.00

Softcover Yearbook

ADD Students Name and Photo for \$5.00 more! * Opportunity for Personalization ends 02-01-2026



December 2025 Breakfast Menu for All Buildings

**MENUS SUBJECT
TO CHANGE**

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

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 Muffin Yogurt	2 Mini Pancakes Sugar Free Syrup	3 Whole Grain Pop-Tart	4 Mini Waffles	5 Biscuits & Gravy
8 French Toast Sticks Sugar Free Syrup	9 Breakfast Bagel Pizza	10 Bagel & Cream Cheese	11 Bacon, Egg & Cheese Biscuit	12 Whole Grain Pop-Tart
15 Donut Yogurt	16 Biscuits & Gravy	17 Muffin String Cheese	18 Mini Pancakes Sugar Free Syrup	19 Breakfast Bagel Pizza
22 No School Holiday Break 	23 No School Holiday Break	24 No School Holiday Break	25 No School 	26 No School Holiday Break
29 No School Holiday Break	30 No School Holiday Break	31 No School Holiday Break	1 No School 	2 No School Holiday Break

Skim, Chocolate and 1% White milk served everyday



December 2025 Lunch Menu for All Buildings



**MENUS SUBJECT
TO CHANGE**

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Applesauce Cup Cookie Milk	2 Mini Corn Dog Baked Beans Mandarin Oranges Teddy Graham Milk	3 Pretzel Bites w/ Cheese Sauce Peas / Apple Slices Granola Bar Milk	4 French Bread Pizza Side Salad (ranch) Mixed Fruit Gold Fish Crackers Milk	5 Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Sandwich Carrots (ranch) Fruit Cup Milk
8 Super Nacho Refried Beans Pears Rice Krispy Treat Milk	9 Chicken Strips Green Beans Peaches Pudding Cup Milk	10 (TR & IC Subject to change) Cheeseburger on Bun Baked Chips Tater Tots Fruit Cup Milk	11 Crispito Chips & Salsa Corn / Pineapple Cookie Milk	12 School Improvement Day 11:30a Dismissal
15 Bosco Stick w/ Marinara Sauce Corn Fruit Cup Milk	16 Walking Taco (Meat, Lettuce, Cheese) Applesauce Cup Rice Krispy Treat Milk	17 Hotdog on Bun Baked Beans Mandarin Oranges Fruit Snacks Milk	18 Chicken & Noodles Mashed Potatoes Peaches / Dinner Roll Dessert Milk	19 Pizza Crunchers Green Beans Pineapples Teddy Grahams Milk
22 No School Holiday Break	23 No School Holiday Break 	24 No School Holiday Break	25 No School   	26 No School Holiday Break
29 No School Holiday Break	30 No School Holiday Break	31 No School Holiday Break	1 No School 	2 No School Holiday Break

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Join the Rockets Team!

**Teachers, Paraprofessionals,
and Kitchen Staff!**



Teachers - \$130.00/day

Paraprofessionals - \$15.00/hr

Kitchen Staff - \$15.00/hr

**Flexible days! You decide when you want to or are
able to! Staff will prepare everything for you to
jump in that day! Breakfast and lunch is free
when you sub. Substitutes also receives passes
to athletic events! Email Dawn Finley
(dfinley@rr300.org)**

