

# Royal Oaks Elementary

FEBRUARY 2020

## Royal Oaks Elementary

*Fostering a culture of  
learning through respect,  
responsibility, and a  
sense of belonging  
for a lifetime of success*

### Dates to Remember

#### February 4

Culver's Night 5:00 p.m. —  
7:00 p.m.

#### February 11

PTA Meeting 6:00 p.m.

#### February 14

No School—Professional  
Development Day

#### February 17

No School—President's Day

#### February 18

No School—Conference  
Prep Day

#### February 21

I LOVE Royal Oaks Day

#### February 24

Wendy's Night 5:00 p.m. —  
7:00 p.m.

#### February 28

Read and Feed

### Royal Oaks Elementary

7335 Steepleview Road  
Woodbury, MN 55125

#### Phone

651.425.4700

#### Attendance Line

651.425.4706

#### Fax

651.425.4715

## A Note from Dr. Risius



Dear Parents/Guardians,

February is I Love to Read month, and our theme is "Camp Read A-Lot". This newsletter contains info about this month. We hope you are supporting reading at home, not just this month but all year long!

PreK Enrollment night is Wednesday, February 19. Our newsletter has an article about this. Registration starts today!

On February 12 you will be able to sign up for Parent Teacher Conferences. There will be a link in my Wednesday 8:15 email as well as on our Royal Oaks website. Conferences are Monday, March 2 and Thursday, March 5.

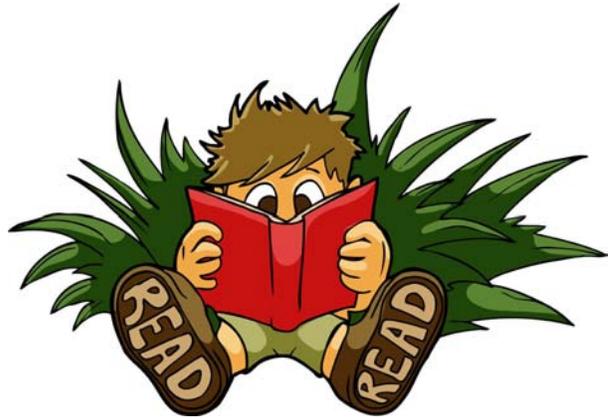
We will have no school on February 14 as staff will be participating in district and building professional development. Monday, February 17 is President's Day so there will not be school for students and staff. On Tuesday, February 18 Royal Oaks and all of our elementary buildings will not have school as teachers will be preparing for conferences.

Dr. Susan Risius

*Royal Oaks Elementary School seeks to create a safe and supportive environment where all students are encouraged to strive for excellence academically, socially, and emotionally.*

# Camp Out

with a good book!



## Camp Read A-Lot

On Friday February 7<sup>th</sup>, Royal Oaks will be celebrating reading at our pretend reading camp. Each classroom will celebrate differently. Activities may include, flashlight reading, camp fire stories, going in a reading hike, reading in a tent, and more!

Everyone is invited to dress like you are going camping. It is optional for students to dress up, but please leave all other camping accessories at home.

## Woodbury Ambassador Readers:

On February 24<sup>th</sup>, the Ambassadors from the Royal Family will come and read to classes at Royal Oaks. They will also discuss their role in supporting the community, and future events.

## College & Career Day:

On Thursday February 27<sup>th</sup>, students and staff will dress to celebrate College and Career options. Students can wear college gear, or dress for their future career choice.

# Are you coming to school for Read and Feed?

Read and Feed is an opportunity to have lunch with your student and browse the bookfair together. **If you plan to come to Read and Feed please notify your student's teacher**, your student will not be sent outside for recess so you have plenty of time. Please consult the information below for dates and times!

## Read and Feed & Conference Schedule

Friday	February 28	Read and Feed
Monday	March 2	Conferences
Tuesday	March 3	No School
Wednesday	March 4	Read and Feed
Thursday	March 5	Conferences

## Recess / Lunch Schedule

Grade	Recess Time	Lunch Time
Kindergarten	10:45	11:05
1	11:10	11:30
2	11:55	12:15
3	11:35	11:55
4	12:35	12:55
5	12:15	12:35



## Kindergarten Enrollment for 2020-21 School Year

We look forward to welcoming your incoming kindergartener to school this fall!

Enrollment for kindergarten is taking place **online** using Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Information about kindergarten in South Washington County Schools, online enrollment, and resources, such as the Parent's Guide to Kindergarten, are available at on the South Washing County Schools website.

If you have any questions about how to enroll, please contact the Student Information Department at 651-425-6328.

Mark your calendar for the Royal Oaks Kindergarten Open House on April 23rd from 5:30—6:30!



Preschool Registration begins February 3rd!

Preschool information night will be held on Wednesday February 19th from 6:00—7:00 p.m. at the following locations:

District Program Center (8400 East Point Douglas Road S., Cottage Grove)

Valley Crossing Elementary School (9900 Park Crossing, Woodbury)

## MRS. HANSEN'S CLASS NEWS.....

### Social Emotional Learning Time

In SELT we have been learning about kindness. In December, we made cards for a brother of a student in our class who is going through basic training. Many in his platoon were not able to come home for the holidays so we sent them cards to cheer them up. They were so happy to get their mail!

Choose   
KINDNESS.



## MRS. NELSON'S CLASS NEWS.....



Mrs. Nelson's class sent a care package to Major Lee Place, a parent of a student in the class. This included heartfelt letters written by the class, decorations, coffee, cookies, games and other fun treats from home. Major Place is a pilot and was deployed in Southeast Asia based out of Qatar. Major Place shared this photo with the class. This was his 6th deployment, he recently returned home!

# donate

**At Royal Oaks we accept snack donations all year long, but we are hosting a special collection night during conferences this year. Please consider donating.**

**Peanut Free Individual wrapped snack Ideas include:**

**Cheese Sticks**

**Pretzels**

**Cereal Bars**

**Chex Mix**

**Yogurt**

**Crackers**

**Animal Crackers**

**Applesauce**

**Fruit cups**

**Granola Bars**

**Breakfast Bars**

**Cheese and Cracker pack**



1 in 5 students in our community experience hunger; **HERE'S AN EASY WAY YOU CAN HELP:** Bring individually packaged healthy snacks (granola bars, crackers, pretzels, dried fruits, raisins, fruit cups, etc.) to our Royal Oaks' main office and drop them in the designated S.N.A.C.K. Cub Foods tote box. You can send the healthy snack with your child to bring to office if you prefer. The snacks donated will be collected and distributed to students/schools in the district, as needed. (Last year, the snacks given by our Royal Oaks families stayed at Royal Oaks.)

NOTE: Many of our elementary schools would prefer nut-free snacks, but we will take any individually packaged snacks that are donated and distribute to district schools. Why? The hunger problem is district wide, and all the schools need some help, so that's where Girl Scout Troop 55128 is coming in – to help our local schools.

In South Washington County, there are many families who are unable to provide snacks for their children during the school hours. So, we have partnered with SoWashCo CARES (Community Action Reaching Every Student) to create the S.N.A.C.K. program (Students Needing Assistance from Caring Kids and Families). The goal of our project is to create awareness of the need and then collect snacks throughout the school year for our students.

This is an on-going need, so this is not just a one-time collection but a continual collection. Thanks for your help with this! We hope to make a real difference. For more information or if you have questions, please email us at [snack833@hotmail.com](mailto:snack833@hotmail.com) or check out our website at <https://sites.google.com/view/the-snack-program/home>.

# Meet the Royal Oaks Staff

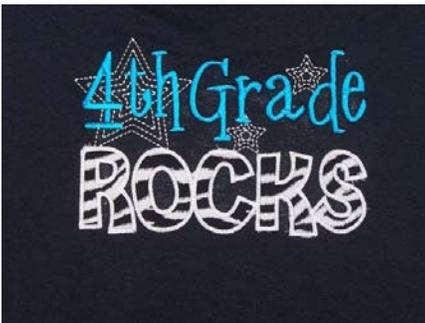


Tania Dantas has been at Royal Oaks for 12 years! She enjoys reading, knitting or crocheting, traveling and spending time with her family and watching Netflix! She has two rescued Xoloitzcuintli dogs (think the movie Coco), their names are Uno (12 years old) and Nina (2 years old).

Kayla Flannigan has been at Royal Oaks for 5 years! She enjoys being outside, fishing and reading. She has a Husky named Izzy and she is expecting her first child in March!

Karen Quirk has been teaching at Royal Oaks for 10 years! She enjoys reading, cooking or baking with her granddaughter and taking walks with her husband and their dog Riley. In the summer, she likes taking family vacations and watching her son play baseball!

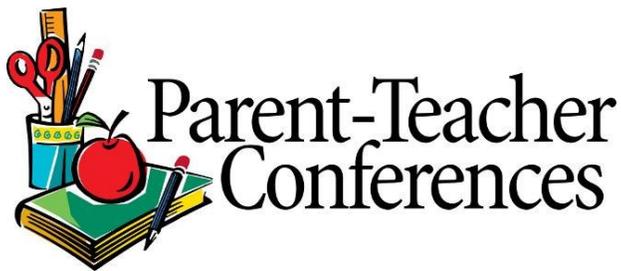
Maribeth Swalve has been teaching for 33 years, 30 of these years at Royal Oaks! She likes to read, bike, hike, cross country ski and travel with her husband. She **likes working with children and feels joy when she sees "her kids" reach their goals.**



Jen Birkel has been a teacher at Royal Oaks for 10 years! She enjoys trying new recipes, is learning how to play golf and cheers for the Badgers, Brewers and the Chicago Bears! She and her husband (Garrett) have a daughter, Maizy who is a freshman in High School. Her sports schedule keep them all busy!

Sharry Finley has been at Royal Oaks for 4 years! She enjoys cooking, doing crossword puzzles, reading, watching movies, boating, hiking and skiing. She loves spending time with her family and pets! She has 2 horses and 3 dogs!

Matt Gonzalez has been at Royal Oaks for 14 years! He enjoys cooking, fly fishing, hiking, music and trying new experiences. He and his wife Kari have 2 children (Sophie and Mason) as well as a crazy dog named Luna. Matt shares that he is from Philadelphia and loves cheering on the Eagles.



## Parent-Teacher Conferences

Watch for the link to sign up for conferences on February 12th.

# I Love Royal Oaks Day—Feb 21st

Wear your Royal Oaks gear or blue and white!



Dunn Orthodontics will share information about dental health with our 5th grade students on February 24th.

## Winter Weather Information

### Information about School Closings

Occasionally, weather conditions are extreme enough to warrant schedule changes or school closures. All closings and schedule changes will be shared by the district Communications Department through:

- ◆ All-district phone calls and emails through Blackboard Connect
- ◆ District website, Facebook and Twitter sites
- ◆ TV stations - WCCO, KARE 11, KSTP and FOX 9 News
- ◆ District cable channel 15

More details are available on [sowashco.org/winter/](http://sowashco.org/winter/)!

### Recess during winter months

Please make sure that your children are wearing winter coats, snow pants, boots, hats, and mittens every day. Students need cold-weather gear to stay warm during outdoor recess, while walking to school, or when on the school bus. Children will go outside for recess every day unless the temperature is zero or below, or when the wind chill is -10 or below. **It's best** to assume your child *will* go outside for recess, so please be sure they dress accordingly.



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## Drop Off Procedure – Please Read

The bolded sentences are new. Thank you for following these expectations to be sure that your child is safe coming to school every day.

- Please pull your car all the way forward to allow as many students to be dropped off at a time. Your student can then walk to the front doors. By everyone pulling forward as far as possible, there is no need for anyone to "budge" in line.
- Once your student has been dropped off, please signal your intent to pull into the driving lane and check for other drivers prior to moving your vehicle.
- Do not leave your vehicle unattended in front of the school. The vehicle will inhibit the flow of traffic during this busy time of the day.

New expectations:

- *The front drop off line will be used only for students that are able to leave cars unassisted.*
- *No adult should be getting out of their car in the drop line in front of the school.*
- If you need to get out of your car to assist your student (i.e. opening the door, unbuckling their seat belt or getting their backpacks or instrument), use the drop off line on the side of the building in the parking lot.
- Do not leave your vehicle unattended in this drop off line. The vehicle will inhibit the flow of traffic during this busy time of the day.

If you are going to walk your student to the front door, please park in the parking lot.



## Holiday Spotlight— Tibetan New Year

The Tibetan New year, also known as Losar Festival, is celebrated on Feb 24th, 2020. This celebration is celebrated by Tibetan Buddhists all over the world, but mainly in Tibet, Bhutan, Nepal, Indian and Pakistan.

### Birthday Treats

This year Royal Oaks will not be supporting edible or non-edible birthday treats being sent to school. Your child's birthday will be recognized in the classroom and each child will receive a birthday bookmark and pencil as they have in the past. If your child's birthday is in the summer, it too will be celebrated!

We have decided that no edible or non-edible treats should be sent to school for a child's birthday due to varying food allergies, the high cost of treats, the high sugar content, and the pressure/competition to bring treats.

*We appreciate you respecting these guidelines during the school year.*



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From Physical Education  
*Ms. Hetchler and Mr. Hansen*

In the month of March, Physical Education classes will be participating in a Roller Skating unit. Skating provides a variety of benefits, which include balance, coordination, motor skills, and a top rated cardio-respiratory workout. Students always look forward to this exciting unit. Thank you to PTA for providing this positive learning experience for our students at Royal Oaks.



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