



## A note from Principal Ben Dallman... PRIDE, Respect, and Responsibility

Happy New Year Roosevelt Families and Friends!

I hope your holidays were relaxing and filled with memories to cherish for years to come. We look forward to a fun and successful 2024! A new year always gives us the opportunity to reflect upon what we have done well and where we can continue improving. January is an important time for us as a school to review data, set new goals, and problem solve better ways to meet the needs of our students. Thank you for the positive support you provide for your child at home!

### Notes from December:

- Along with supporting the academic needs of our students, we are also supporting our students' social-emotional learning needs each day. After focusing on **respect**, **responsibility**, and **cooperation** to begin the year, we spent the month of December teaching about **empathy**. We describe empathy to our students as *our ability to understand and connect with the feelings of another*, which simply begins with listening. As a school, our students have made some great gains in this area that we are all so very proud of!
- Our Roosevelt PTA hosted their ninth annual *Holiday Workshop* after school on December 7, which was a really special activity for our students. Thank you to the many family members who volunteered their time, energy, and patience to help run this fun event!
- On December 11, Roosevelt students joined other ECASD schools in reducing our carbon footprint by participating in food composting during breakfast and lunch at school. This was made possible because of a grant our district received through the Eau Claire County Recycling Program.
- Roosevelt Elementary School celebrated our schoolwide *Holiday Sing* on December 22. If you were unable to view the livestream, you may watch this activity afterwards by clicking on this link: [Roosevelt Elementary Holiday Sing webcast](#).
- Thank you for your help with making sure your child has their winter-weather-gear at school each day between now and spring break. When temperatures are consistently above 40°. Winter -weather-gear includes a jacket, snow pants, boots, hat, and mittens or gloves for all Roosevelt elementary students (K-5). You may find more information here: [Winter Gear Reminder](#)

### Upcoming in January:

- January is *National Mentoring Month*! Thank you to the many, many mentors who connect with and support Roosevelt students each week. The positive impact you have on our students who need another adult connection has been tremendous! If you have not already been a mentor at Roosevelt but are interested in learning more about the program, please reach out to our school counselor Katie Skutley at [kskutley@ecasd.us](mailto:kskutley@ecasd.us). Our mentorship program would love to have your support!
- Roosevelt Fourth Grade students will be enjoying their annual field trip to the Ice Age Trail on **January 4**.
- On **January 5**, we will have another schoolwide assembly to reflect on our work with *empathy* before introducing our focus on *perseverance* for the month of January.
- Families will receive After School Club information for our Third-Quarter Clubs on **January 8**. Registration opens **January 8** and closes on **January 18** with clubs running January 29 to March 15. Each club will be capped at 20 students per club, with priority given to our students who were put on the wait list during Second Quarter Club enrollment. Families with students who are unable to be enrolled because the club is full will be notified the week of January 22 and placed on the priority list for Fourth Quarter Clubs.
- Roosevelt families with children in fifth grade are invited to DeLong Middle School's "Fifth-to-Sixth Grade Parents Night" on **Tuesday, January 9** beginning at 6:00pm.
- Students will not attend school on **January 15** in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day or on **January 22-23** because of professional development.
- Students received Butter Braid fundraiser materials in December with sales ending Tuesday, **January 16**. Thank you for your help with this fundraiser, which is one of our two major funding sources for our general PTA account, with the other being our Walk-a-thon held last fall. Our PTA provides funding for so many things that benefit kids, including additional field trips for each grade-level, guest presenters, PTA mini-grants, and family engagement activities. Thank you again for helping our PTA with their work!
- Speaking of something our PTA so generously supports, we will be inviting guest presenter Mike Schneider to our school on **Friday, January 12** for a *Pint-Sized Polka* performance for grades K-2 and then grades 3-5.
- Our next *Roosevelt Night at Culvers* will be on **Tuesday, January 16**, with 10% of all sales going back to our PTA general fund.
- On **Friday, January 19**, we welcome local author Robin Kelley to share her presentation with grades K-2 and then grades 3-5. This was made possible through an Equity grant our school was awarded.
- Over the past two years, our *Roosevelt Neighborhood Playground Taskforce* has raised over \$80,000 to go towards new playground equipment and needed updates. With the first phase of our two-phase project installed last summer, our goal is to raise the remaining \$30K-\$40K by this spring so we are able to install the second phase of this enormous project! If interested in sharing with neighbors, businesses, and community members, please share this [Roosevelt Community Playground Fundraising letter](#) where you may also find more information.

**Thursday, January 18**, is the date of our next PTA meeting from **6:00-7:30 pm**.

PTA meetings focus on PTA specific times for the first half of the meeting before shifting our focus to Playground fundraising topics with the time remaining. All Roosevelt families are welcome to join us to ask questions, provided suggestions, and offer support. We plan to meet in person in our library with a virtual option also available. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please email our PTA at [roosevelt.pta.eauclaire@gmail.com](mailto:roosevelt.pta.eauclaire@gmail.com). You may access the agenda and virtual meeting links below:

- [Roosevelt PTA Meeting link \(6:00-7:30pm\)](#)
-  [Roosevelt PTA Agenda 2023-2024.docx](#)



- Please join us (students and their families) for our *Roosevelt PTA Night at the Sports Warehouse* scheduled to take place on **Friday, January 19**! This is a free event and a great time to connect with other Roosevelt families. Registration is not required, so please join us if you are able. The Sports Warehouse is located one block from Roosevelt Elementary School at 2983 11th Street in Eau Claire.
- *Adult Crossing Guard Recognition Week* is **January 22-26**. If you have children that walk to school, please encourage them to offer an extra “thank you” to our crossing guards who help keep them safe.
- As part of the National Great Kindness Challenge, we will be celebrating *Kindness Week* at Roosevelt **January 29-February 2**! Along with learning about and practicing kindness throughout the school day, students may also work with their families on this important life skill from home using [The Great Kindness Challenge Family Checklist](#). If you would like to share photos of your child performing acts of kindness from home to post on our school Facebook page, please email photos to [trud@ecasd.us](mailto:trud@ecasd.us). When at school, students will be engaging in the following activities:
  - [The Great Kindness Challenge School Checklist \(K-2\)](#)
  - [The Great Kindness Challenge School Checklist \(3-5\)](#)
  - [Great Kindness Challenge - Reflection Worksheet](#)

As we approach *Kindness Week* beginning on **January 29**, please be aware of the following school dress up days as your child plans their outfits:

Monday: **Team Up with Kindness**: Wear your favorite jersey or team colors.

Tuesday: **Peace, Love, & Kindness Day**: Wear tie dye or peace signs.

Wednesday: **Shine Bright with Kindness**: Wear bright colors.

Thursday: **Hats Off to Kindness**: Crazy hair or hat day.

Friday: **Kindness and Pride, Schoolwide**: Wear your Roosevelt blue.

- The deliver day for our PTA's Butter Braid fundraiser will be on **Tuesday, January 30 (3:35-5:00pm)**. Thank you to our families who helped coordinate this project and the families who have been able to support it.

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From all of us at Roosevelt Elementary, thank you for the positive support you provide your child at home!

Sincerely,

*Ben Dallman*

Principal  
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*"Collectively committed to educating our Roosevelt community in a safe, nurturing, and responsive environment."* 

**Si desea que alguien le traduzca esta carta o si tiene preguntas,  
llame a Kresly Rodriguez-Martinez al 715-852-4246.**

**Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais tsab ntawv no ua lus Hmoob, hu xov tooj rau koj tus me nyuam lub tsev kawm ntawv  
Kong Moua (715-852-4758) los sis hu rau Blia Schwahn (715-852-6764).**