



DATES TO REMEMBER

We	Dec	3	Chili's Restaurant Night
Mo	Dec	8	PTA Meeting 7 p.m.
Tu	Dec	9	Bagel Sale
Th	Dec	11	Holiday Shop/Book Fair
Fr	Dec	12	Holiday Shop/Book Fair

NEXT PTA MEETING DECEMBER 8

Make it a habit to attend our school's PTA meetings in 2014/2015! They are a great way to meet other parents, interact with staff and find out information about the school. Meetings are held in the media center and **last only one hour (7-8 pm)**. **Free child care is provided in the gym**. The meetings are attended by our School Board Liaison, Gary Briggs, so it is a good opportunity to find out what is happening in the district and to ask questions about Royal Oak Schools.

Also, at our December meeting, Mrs. Kazdan, Oak Ridge 4th grade teacher, will be giving a short presentation about **Think Central**, the online component of our new math curriculum. Come and find out how this program can help your children!

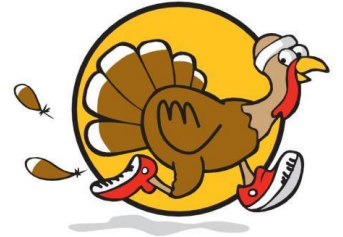
BAGEL SALE

Our Fourth Graders will have bagel sales to raise money for their trip to Lansing, along with making a donation to Gleaners, the Student Senate, and our school field trip fund. Bagels are \$1 each. **Next Bagel Sale is on Tuesday, December 9th.**



TURKEY TROT TEAM

Please join us to walk, jog, run or some combination of both. We meet at the McDonald's on 13 & Rochester, Saturday mornings at 9 a.m.



Our goal is to inspire each other to exercise as these days get cooler.

The final event is the Turkey Trot in Detroit on Thanksgiving before the parade. Whether or not you do the Turkey Trot, the training together is great.

All are welcome! Contact Monique Burns at thedproperties@gmail.com if you have any questions.

OAKLAND MALL "WILL YOUR SCHOOL RULE?" CONTEST

Oak Ridge was selected for the Oakland Mall "Will Your School Rule?" contest. We could win up to \$5000 for the school. All you have to do is shop at Oakland Mall October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015.

- Take your original receipts to the Information Center on the lower level to redeem for points for Oak Ridge
- Schools are awarded one point for every eligible dollar spent at all Oakland stores and restaurants
- Schools with the most points win cash for their school at the end of the contest

Get more info [here](#) !

SHOES FOR THE SEASON

Starting Tuesday, December 2nd the PTA Green Team will again be sponsoring our Shoes of the Season event. They will be collecting gently used shoes and boots of any size are of any size for local in-need families. Donations are accepted **through Thursday, December 20th** and can be placed in the box outside of the office.





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOLIDAY SHOP

The Holiday shop will take place after school on Thursday, December 12th and Friday, December 13th. This is a great place for the whole family to purchase gifts at kid-friendly prices. If you'd like to help with this fun event, contact Lisa Hanes at lisey1971@yahoo.com. More information will be coming home soon.

Our Holiday shop will feature local crafters, vendor gifts, a bake sale and the Scholastic Book Sale.

Middle and high school students are welcome to help out at the Holiday Shop!

Please check out the Sign Up Genius links below to let us know how you can help.

Sign up [here](#) to volunteer to help at the Holiday Shop.

Sign up [here](#) to donate baked goods for the bake sale.

HAPPENINGS AT ROMS AND ROHS

Royal Oak High School Annual Arts and Crafts Marketplace November 22nd 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
<http://www.rohs-craft.com/>

Parent Café December 4th at the Royal Oak Middle School 6 p.m.
<http://www.roms-pta.com/calendar.html>

NOONWALKERS

As of November 12th, Total Miles Walked: 1,017.63

Top 3 classes for mileage:

1st place: Ms. Mann's class – 130.13 miles

2nd place: Mr. Stafford's class – 126.75 miles

3rd place: Ms. Kazdan's class - 110.75 miles

Congratulations to those who completed 5, 10, and 15 mile cards this week (listed in alphabetical order)

Thanks to Mrs. Kazdan (10), Mrs. Fletcher (5), Ms. Mann and Mr. Stafford for walking this week!

Ms. Mann's Class

Alexis B. (10)

Whitney B. (5)

Mrs. Rybicki's Class

Gage O. (5)

Gwyneth H. (5)

Lucas C. (5)

Mrs. Kosnik's Class

Evelyn B. (5)

Mr. Stafford's Class

Alan C. (10)

Carley D. (10)

Maya S. (10)

Mrs. Kazdan's class:

Fleet J. (15)

Ryan E. (10)

Sydney S. (10)

RELAY FOR LIFE

The Royal Oak Relay Life isn't until Saturday, June 13, 2015, but we are getting our team

geared up to start fundraising! Please contact Kristin Scrippler at kscrippler73@gmail.com to be a part of the Oak Ridge Team. Check out our team's page at

[Click here to view the TEAM page for Oak Ridge Elementary](#)



PTA Myths Revealed

Have you heard the myths surrounding the PTA? Here is a rundown of what's fact and what's fiction about the PTA.

MYTH: PTA meetings are long, drawn out affairs filled with boring agenda items.

FACT: PTA meetings last one hour and are filled with useful information for parents. Dr. Parrott and our school board representative give updates on what's happening throughout the school-news you won't hear anywhere else. You can ask questions and voice your opinions. And you can help decide how to raise money for the school and, even more importantly - how to spend it.

MYTH: PTA members are a tight-knit social group that is hard to break into.

FACT: PTA members are there for one reason: To help their children and the school succeed. Members will put their egos aside and work together to do what is best for everyone.

MYTH: If you are a PTA member, you have to commit to hours and hours of volunteer time.

FACT: You can volunteer as little or as much as your schedule allows. You can just pay your dues and come to meetings if that is all you have time for. Or you can sign up for an activity or even chair a committee if you desire. Whatever you do will be greatly appreciated.

MYTH: Money raised through the PTA goes toward paperwork and other useless expenses.

FACT: All money raised goes directly back into events that enrich our students.

MYTH: PTA membership never expires, so I only have to join once.

FACT: Each new school year begins a new PTA membership year. Membership cards are issued to each member who joins PTA. Membership cards are for an annual membership.

MYTH: Joining PTA means I have to volunteer. I'll get roped into volunteering for something if I go to a PTA meeting.

FACT: You do not have to volunteer to be a member of PTA! There are always opportunities to get involved and the PTA and school both need a lot of volunteers. We have to ask for volunteers and help. But, there is no pressure to sign up if you don't want to volunteer or are unable to. It is okay to say no if you can't do something. PTA appreciates everyone's membership, whether or not a member volunteers, because each member increases PTA's ability to advocate for children. The simple act of joining the PTA is valuable to our school.

MYTH: The PTA is for stay-at-home moms with nothing better to do.

FACT: Your fellow PTA members are parents, grandparents and community members who want to support the school. Most members are juggling jobs, household chores, kids, sports and homework. Most members of the PTA Executive Board and Committee Chairs either work full-time or part-time jobs outside of the home. A strong, vibrant PTA needs the support of moms and dads, step-parents, aunts and uncles, teachers and school staff, community members and business leaders. Anyone who cares about children belongs in PTA.

MYTH: PTA has all the help they need. My participation will not make a difference.

FACT: This is the biggest myth of all. We need your help and participation. We have board and chair positions that need to be filled. If we do not fill them we will have to cancel activities. Even if you cannot commit to filling a board or chair position, we need your help! We need volunteers to help at all of our events. If you choose to volunteer, you get to decide your time commitment.

MYTH: PTA mainly does events during the day Monday-Friday and I work during the daytime.

FACT: During the school year, we hold multiple events for families in the evenings. We always hold our board and general membership meetings in the evening.