

Ridge Road Reporter 2025



Happy October Everyone!

We are excited to announce two major family events this month for our students and their families!

Halloween Dance

Join us for our Halloween Dance on Friday, October 24th, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Due to a home football game at our high school complex that evening, the dance will be held in the IS/MS gym. This event is always a delightful experience for everyone, and we encourage all attendees to wear their favorite Halloween costumes and hit the dance floor! With the IS/MS gym as our venue, ample parking will be available for all.

Halloween Parade

On Friday, October 31st, we will host our Halloween Parade at 1:00 PM. Please keep in mind that the parade is dependent on weather conditions. If the weather is clear, we will hold the parade outside on the lawn around the butterfly garden. However, if the weather does not cooperate, we will have a smaller indoor parade for students and staff, which will not be open to public viewing. Parking is limited at this complex, so we highly recommend carpooling to the parade. A final decision regarding the parade will be made by noon on the 31st if rain is in the forecast.

Additionally, on October 31st, students will celebrate Halloween by having parties in their classrooms following the parade. We kindly ask that you refrain from signing your child out of school after the parade to ensure they do not miss their classroom festivities. We look forward to celebrating these special events with you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne-Marie Bailey".

Anne-Marie Bailey
Ridge Road Principal

Character Education Focus for October

Our Character Education virtue for the month of October is **Responsibility**. We will be focusing on the following in school:

- Do what you are expected to do
- Persevere: keep on trying
- Always try to do your best
- Use self-control, be self-disciplined
- Think before you act: consider the consequences
- Be accountable for your choices/actions

Please help support our focus on Responsibility by also discussing this trait with your child at home.

No School for Students Friday, October 10th Monday, October 13th

School will not be in session for students on Friday, October 10th as all staff will be participating in trainings and meetings for the Superintendent’s Conference Day. School will not be in session on Monday, October 13th for students or staff, as all Horseheads Schools will be closed in honor of Columbus Day.



Fire Prevention Month



Members of the Horseheads Fire Department will be joining us at Ridge Road on Thursday, October 9th for a Fire Safety Assembly. Please help to support our fire safety focus by reviewing your individual safety plans with your child at home. Also, please remember to change your batteries in the smoke alarms at your homes.

Halloween Dance- Friday October 24, 2025
6:30-8:00 pm at the IS/MS Gym

All Ridge Road students and family members are welcome to join us at the middle school gym on Friday, October 24th, for the Halloween Dance. This is always one of the favorite events for the students. Parents are also welcomed to dress in costume and join the kiddos on the dance floor!



Halloween Parade

Our Halloween Parade will start at **1:00 on Friday, October 31st**. **If it is not raining, parents may attend the outside part of our parade. Parents may line up along the inside of the fence in the yard area. Students will be walking around the butterfly garden.** Please know that no parents will be allowed in the school building.

Please make sure that your child's costume is appropriate for our very young students to see and that it does not have any type of toy weapon as a prop. We plan to run a normal morning schedule that is focused on academics.

Please do not allow your child to come to school dressed in costume or with make-up on. All students will have an opportunity to change into their costumes prior to the parade.

We want to make sure dismissal will be safe and go smoothly, we **respectfully ask that all students follow their normal dismissal procedures for the 31st and that parents do not request to pick them up early.**



Early Release Practice Drill

On Thursday, October 16th, all Ridge Road students and staff will participate in an early release practice drill. We will hold this drill around 9:20 am. The students will practice what to do should we ever need to evacuate our school building for another location or should we ever need to have an early emergency dismissal during the school day. Please note that this is just a practice session with the transportation department and although the students will all practice boarding their assigned early dismissal buses, no one will leave our school grounds for this drill. The drill should take about 15 minutes to practice, and all students will return to their classroom for normal instruction for the rest of the school day.

PTO Meeting on Wednesday, October 15th

The Ridge Road PTO will be hosting a meeting on **Wednesday, October 15th at 6:30 pm in the Ridge Road library**. All parents are invited to attend the meeting and be a part of our PTO. If you can volunteer just a little or really want to be highly involved, we would love for you to be a part of the Ridge Road PTO! Childcare is provided during the meeting.

Educational Programs

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or gender (including gender identity and expression). Inquiries regarding this notice may be made to Caitlin DeFilippo Title IX and DASA Coordinator, or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

HORSEHEADS MISSION STATEMENT

Horseheads Central School District sets the standard of educational excellence by fostering innovative thinking, curiosity, and a passion for learning to maximize the potential of each individual. We engage with our local and global communities to provide a student-centered, nurturing environment.

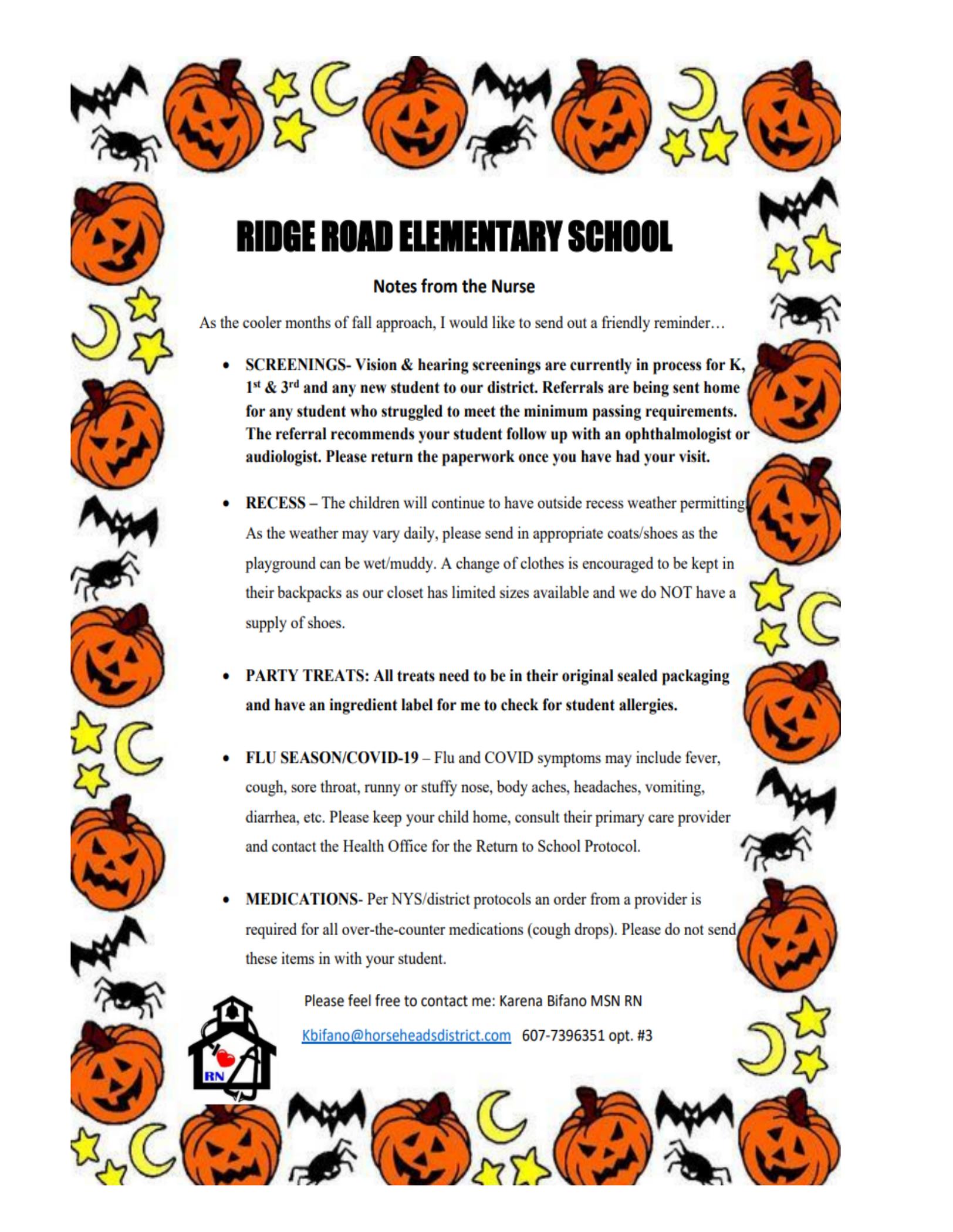
EXPLORE

EMPOWER

EXCEL

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|--------------------------------|
| Dignity Act Coordinator |
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The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Ridge Road is Anne-Marie Bailey. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Anne-Marie Bailey at 607-739-6351 x 7600. The Dignity Act Coordinator for the Horseheads Central School District is Caitlin DeFilippo. Mrs. DeFilippo may be reached at One Raider Lane, horseheads, NY 14845, 607-739-5601 x 4211



RIDGE ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Notes from the Nurse

As the cooler months of fall approach, I would like to send out a friendly reminder...

- **SCREENINGS-** Vision & hearing screenings are currently in process for K, 1st & 3rd and any new student to our district. Referrals are being sent home for any student who struggled to meet the minimum passing requirements. The referral recommends your student follow up with an ophthalmologist or audiologist. Please return the paperwork once you have had your visit.
- **RECESS –** The children will continue to have outside recess weather permitting. As the weather may vary daily, please send in appropriate coats/shoes as the playground can be wet/muddy. A change of clothes is encouraged to be kept in their backpacks as our closet has limited sizes available and we do NOT have a supply of shoes.
- **PARTY TREATS:** All treats need to be in their original sealed packaging and have an ingredient label for me to check for student allergies.
- **FLU SEASON/COVID-19 –** Flu and COVID symptoms may include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headaches, vomiting, diarrhea, etc. Please keep your child home, consult their primary care provider and contact the Health Office for the Return to School Protocol.
- **MEDICATIONS-** Per NYS/district protocols an order from a provider is required for all over-the-counter medications (cough drops). Please do not send these items in with your student.

Please feel free to contact me: Karena Bifano MSN RN

Kbifano@horseheadsdistrict.com 607-7396351 opt. #3



P.E. WITH MISS. 'B' & MR. 'R': 2025-26

Mr. Romanski and Miss. Bryant

(607) 739-6351

Ext. 2702

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OCTOBER NEWS

Hey parents,

Here are some reminders to make our year easier for your students, teachers, and you.

Upcoming Events

Halloween Dance
10/24

1. **HALLOWEEN DANCE!** During PE class, students will be preparing for the annual holiday celebration on 10/24.



2. **SAFETY REMINDER:** Please make sure your student wears sneakers or has them in their back packs. Sneakers are designed to allow for easy movement and to protect the feet and ankles from injuries that could occur while participating in vigorous activities.
3. **SUPER SATURDAY FUN & GAMES FALL 2025:** The Super Saturday Program is designed to encourage, extend, and further the development, culture, and education of children during their leisure time. For more information please go to the Village of Horseheads Parks & Recreation website.
4. **And always remember: RIDGE ROAD ROCKS!!!**

