

# DERUYTER Central School

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2019

ROCKET PRIDE

## IMPORTANT DATES

### FEBRUARY

- 1 K-12 Early Dismissal @ 11:30 am
- 9 Father/Daughter; Mother/Son Dance
- 11-15 National FFA Week
- 13 BO Meeting @ 6:00 pm
- 16 Play Rehearsal @ 8am-3pm
- 18 No School - President's Day**
- 18-22 No School - Winter Recess**
- 27 PTO Meeting @ 6:30 pm

### MARCH

- 4 Varsity Spring Sports Begin
- 7-9 Drama Club Musical @ 7pm
- 13 K-12 Early Dismissal @ 11:30am for Elem. Parent Teacher Conf./ 6-12 Staff - Professional Dev. BOE Mtg @ 6:00 pm
- 18-22 Agriculture Literacy Week
- 18 PARP Begins Spring Modified Sports Begin
- 20 PTO Mtg. @ 6:30 pm
- 27 MIOSM Concert @ 6:30 pm

## DCS Drama Club presents "Once On This Island," March 7-9, 2019

Celebrate storytelling with this rousing Calypso-flavored tale of one small girl who finds love in a world of prejudice. This theatrical Caribbean adaptation of the popular fairy tale, *The Little Mermaid*, earned eight Tony nominations for its Broadway run, including Best Musical, Book and Score.

Ti Moune, a peasant girl, rescues a wealthy boy from the other side of the island, Daniel, with whom she falls in love. Unbeknownst to Ti Moune, the Gods who preside over the island make a bet with one another over which is stronger, love or death, the stakes being Ti Moune's life. When she pursues Daniel, who has returned to his people, Ti Moune is shunned because of her poor status. Her determination and capacity to love, though, is not enough to win Daniel's heart, and Ti Moune pays the ultimate price; but her sacrifice breaks down the wall that separates the two sides of the island and ultimately unites them.

**CAST** Storytellers: Tyler Ashley, Julia Hathaway, and Olivia Lidell. Little Ti Moune played by Graycie Barber. Mama Euralie played by Aloura Rice. Tonton Julian played by Nicholas Whitmarsh. Ti Moune played by Graycee Forrest. Daniel Beauxhomme played by Austin Baker. Armand Beauxhomme played by Sean Millett. Madam Beauxhomme played by Kassidy Lawrence.

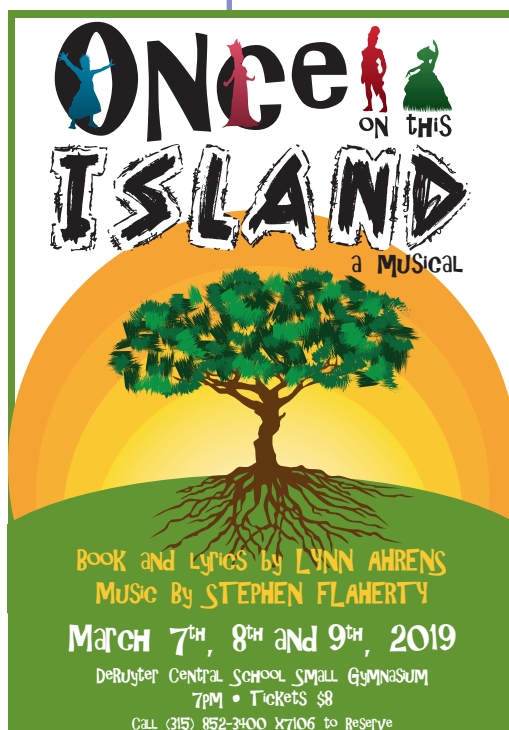
Andrea Devereaux played by Abriana Whitt. Papa Ge, Sly Demon of Death played by Kenyon Gerst. Asaka, Mother of the Earth played by Emily Elwood. Agwe, God of Water played by Kyle Barnes. Erzulie, Goddess of Love played by Amaya Rounsaville, and Gatekeeper played by Sean Millett.

**ENSEMBLE** Molly Amidon, Jason Barrows, Eric Chapman, Liam Chisholm, Savannah Compton, Maegan Elliott, Trevor Gerst, Chloe Greene, Brooke Judson, Calla Lansdowne, Kira Lawrence, Gavin Miller, Jackson Millett, Madelyn Murphy, Isabella Pagano, Torrie Randall, Joey Rice, Rhya Richardson, Abigail Stanton, Devens Whalen, and Alexia Whitt.

**STAGE CREW** Stage Managers: Tayler Marshall and Madison Russell. Benjamin Barnes, Ryder Forrest, Aaron Glisson, Gavin Richardson and Sarah Rose Wood.

**TECHNICAL CREW** Daniel Hathaway, Olivia Millett and Dylan Skeelee.

**PIT BAND** Dakota Baker, Kaitlin Donaghue, Mitchell Judd, Kayla Lawrence, Kerra Sorrells and Elaina Stafford.



**DAVID M. BROWN**

## FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Happy New Year to everyone. It is amazing to me how fast this year is going. I am forever grateful for the continued communication in and outside of the district. We are continuing to see great strides in our curriculum, communication, collaboration, and growth. There are several things I wanted to share with you in the new year.

First is that our Superintendent's Council is off to a great start. I have the privilege of meeting with 8 students (two from each grade) every month. We discuss anything that is on their minds about school, classes, extra-curriculars, the Code of Conduct, etc. They asked where the Salad Bar went and if it could come back and we piloted it for the month of December. It was so successful one day a week we are doing it now two days a week. Having the voice of the students is such an important part of their education.

The Board of Education and Madison County have agreed to a shared service in regard to a School Resource Officer or as they title it, Special Patrol Officer. As of this printing, we are in the final stages of hiring a person to work in our district starting sometime in February. The entire process, job responsibilities, and further details will be shared with the community when we finalize the selection process. We will be having a community night to introduce our new officer to you. Stay tuned to the website for further details.

Speaking of the website, it is a great place for you to get up to the date information. Please check in frequently for any updates and news items from the district.

If we ever have the need to delay or close the school we will notify you in different ways. If you have children in the district you should be signed up for School Messenger and get a text, e-mail, and/or call when we make the decision to delay or close. If you do not subscribe, and want to, please reach out to Sandy Welsh, [welsh@deruytercentral.org](mailto:welsh@deruytercentral.org) to get signed up for this service. Once we communicate with our students and their families, we will also alert the news outlets so you can get the information through your radio and television. It is always my intent to make this decision no later than 6 a.m., but the weather is never predictable. If you ever have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [dbrown@deruytercentral.org](mailto:dbrown@deruytercentral.org). I am always available to you if needed.

We are working diligently to build our budget for the 2019-2020 School Year. It beguiles me that I am talking about 2020 already. I started teaching in DeRuyter in 1989 and it feels like yesterday. It is so strange to be talking about Fiscal Year 2020. All that being said, this year will be an interesting year in regard to our budget. I will be going around to many town meetings discussing the budget throughout the winter and spring months. If you have a meeting and would like to invite myself and a board member please reach out to schedule that. As you probably remember me saying many times this past fall, we have had the increase to our tax base with the new Compressor Plant in Georgetown. All of your tax bills went down substantially. Before the compressor plant, you were paying \$18.61 per thousand dollars of assessed value. After the compressor plant, your tax bill this year was \$15.24 per thousand dollars. This created a large tax cap scenario for us. It is important that you know we are NOT going to ask for a Super Majority and your STAR Reimbursement is safe. Our projections are between 16.50 and 17.00 per thousand, but still substantially lower than the 18.61 you paid in 2017-2018. This is why I want to come and share this with you at your community meetings. We have the proposed budget from the Governor's office and hope to have final numbers for our community by mid-March. Once we have a firm grasp on the dollars from the New York Budget and our needs for the district, I can share this with the community. As I have said since I arrived, my mission is always to be transparent. Once the board gives me direction I will be ready and willing to share it with everyone.

Again, thank you for your continued support and feedback. I can only be the best that I can be when I hear from you. Sometimes it is a tough conversation but that is something I am here to listen to and hopefully work with you to better understand. This will allow us to get back to doing what we need to do and that is to educate our children and create productive members of our community. My hope is that many will come back and raise their families in one of the most loving and supportive communities I have ever been a part of.

*David M. Brown, Superintendent of School*  
[dbrown@deruytercentral.org](mailto:dbrown@deruytercentral.org)

## Teacher of the Year, Elementary Division, Stephanie Locke!

New York Agriculture in the Classroom (NYAITS) is pleased to announce the selection of Stephanie Locke as one of our 2019 Teachers of the Year. Stephanie will be representing NYAITS as a model educator who incorporates agriculture as a context for learning in her fifth-grade classroom at DeRuyter Central School. Stephanie's eagerness and willingness to make real life connections with her students is apparent to all who meet her. She is opening student's eyes to the agriculture all around them and impressing upon them the importance of knowing our food systems.



**Stephanie Locke**

Stephanie has been teaching at DeRuyter since December 2007. She holds a degree in Elementary and Special Education and is currently working on her certificate of Advanced Study for Administration. Her passion for teaching students through a lens of agriculture stems from the local community of DeRuyter and her school's former Agriculture teacher, Mary Coolbaugh. Stephanie took notice of how excited and energetic Mary's students were and wanted to learn more about what made Agriculture classes different. Upon attending the DeRuyter FFA chapter's annual banquet, Stephanie was blown away to see students in charge of a complete production, and presented themselves so well while receiving awards, making speeches and honoring those who had helped them throughout the year. She then set out to cultivate that type of environment where students could empower themselves and learn differently in her own classroom.

Stephanie has brought a collaborative approach to her teaching by working closely with the grades 10-12 Horticulture class. Currently, the Horticulture class has a greenhouse and raised garden beds. Each spring, students visit the Horticulture class and help fill containers, plant flowers, and prep the garden beds for planting. Stephanie has invested her time and energy into teaching her students about the importance of growing, harvesting and consuming their own food.

Stephanie's eagerness to try new things and step outside of her comfort zone are what makes her an incredible educator. She offers her students countless opportunities that promote agriculture. Stephanie has incorporated ELA into these lessons through student journaling what they see every day in the school garden. During Science, her students have documented the amount of sap collected each day during the maple season, measured the circumference of the trees used to tap, and wrote about the process of boiling syrup. She led lessons about what a vegetable needs to grow and produce and provided the opportunity for her students to seed, water, and transplant their vegetables and herbs into the school garden. She has also talked to students about pest control, which led to her students helping to release up to 1,000 lady bugs in

the greenhouse for aphid control. Throughout her Social Studies class, she has discussed the history behind plant growth and production agriculture. During her beef unit she has touched base on the history of the different breeds of cattle and their uses for both beef and milk. During the maple unit Stephanie works closely with the Agriculture students to teach her about the different tools used throughout the years and how much the maple industry has changed and modernized. Her students have had the opportunity to install modern tubing onto trees as well as buckets. This comparison has allowed for her students to see the different sap collection techniques.

Stephanie has arranged field trips throughout the area where her students have had the opportunity learn about on-the-farm processes and production. One such trip was to Trinity Valley where they have watched cows get milked and then watched milk be bottled at the processing facility. Students have also worked closely with the owners of Lucky 13, a local beef farm, who sponsors them during the Top Cut Beef Contest. Stephanie has formed a relationship with the owners where she has worked to purchase burger meat for her beef lessons. She also began to incorporate the making of soups and roasts and discussing the nutritional value of the food they are making, as well as the health and safety aspect. Through the opportunities she is providing her students, she allows her students to practice their reading and measurement skills.

Their goal for the end of November is to have a formal meal incorporating the roasts from Lucky 13 and squash from their garden. With this dinner comes the opportunity to guide students about table manners and behavior in a group setting.

Stephanie has also organized Earth Day for her students every year. She talks about the importance of decreasing your carbon footprint and keeping your community and world clean. Every year, on Earth Day, her and her class spend the afternoon cleaning up around the village of DeRuyter.

All of the opportunities that Stephanie provides to her students have greatly impacted their behavior and increased their positive attitudes. Her willingness to try new things, passion for teaching, and her interest in the agricultural industry has greatly benefited all of the students she comes in contact with.

Stephanie will be awarded an expenses-paid opportunity to attend the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Arkansas in June. This exceptional professional development opportunity will allow her the chance to meet and learn from educators across the country and become exposed to even more classroom resources and tools to teach through and about agriculture. **Congratulations Stephanie!**



## PreK Returns to DCS!

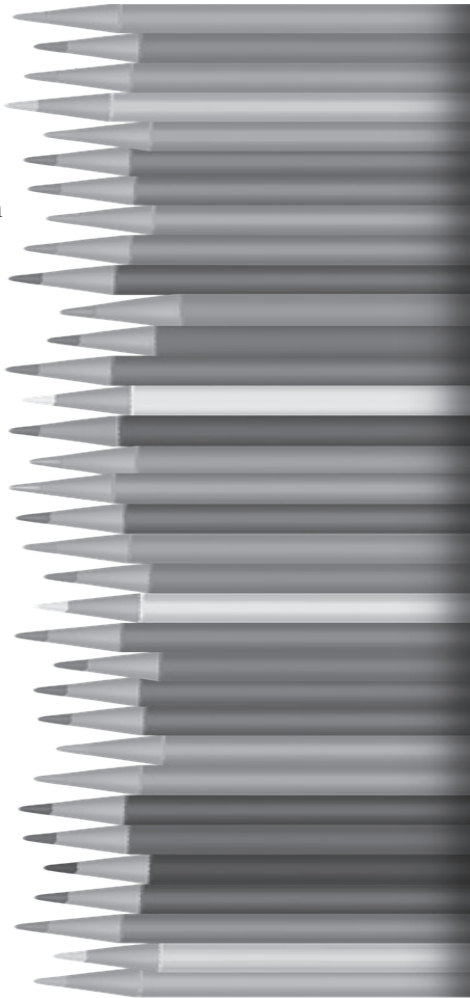
Our preK program will begin on Monday, January 28th. DCS welcomed twenty-four new little learners and two new teachers into our school community. Kristen Romagnoli and Samantha Bogert are our preK teachers. Both come to us with experience teaching young students.

Ms. Romagnoli is originally from Cazenovia and was looking to move back closer to home after taking some time to teach out of state. She has filled long-term substitute placements around the area and has a special education background.

Ms. Bogert is originally from Long Island and settled in Cazenovia after attending Cazenovia College. She has a wealth of preK experience, having worked as an assistant director in a preK program. Bailey Coon and Angela Wood will be supporting our new students as preK program TAs.

DCS is excited about this dynamic new team! Our primary hallway will be full of life and learning! A big thank you to Kevin Springer and his custodial and transportation crews, the preK committee, our special areas teachers, and secretarial staff for working so hard to get ready for the return of preK.

A PreK Open House event is planned for the evening of Wednesday, February 27th from 5:30-6:30pm.



## An Appeal from Tioughnioga Ruritan

Visitors and residents often say that DeRuyter is a special community, where they feel welcome and respected. Everyone in DeRuyter is a neighbor.

Since 1971, Ruritan members have labored to enhance this community spirit. Ruritan is a local community service organization that raises money and takes on projects to enhance the quality of life in the towns served by the DeRuyter School District.

Our projects include the Town Hall gazebo, village flags and holiday lights, welcome signs and flower boxes, blood drives, and Adopt-a-Highway. We donate scholarships, graduation awards, and school supplies to our local students; and donate to the American Legion, Madison County Children's Camp, Girl's State, Christmas outreach, hardship and other local causes.

In order to continue and expand our mission, we need to add new people and new ideas. Members attend monthly dinner meetings, which include guest speakers, fellowship, and discussion of projects and other club issues. Dues cover the cost of meals and participation in the Ruritan Nation Organization. We urge you to consider becoming a member. Ruritan membership is an easy way to give back to your community.

If you would like to know more about Ruritan, and how our community can benefit from your talents and abilities, contact any Ruritan member or call Tim Marr at 315-852-6243 or Jim Laris at 315-852-3350. Please leave a message if necessary. Follow us on Facebook: DeRuyter Ruritan Club.

## ◀ ACADEMIC ACC

Mrs. Hirt's  
**Grade 4**

### PRINCIPAL'S LIST

Cooper Millett  
Cheyenne Williams  
**HIGH HONOR**  
Emma Haggart  
Everett Hayes  
Aurora Mead  
James Morningstar  
Chelsey Prince  
Haylee Schlafer  
**HONOR**  
Jebadiah Dolbec  
Destani Predmore  
Finneas Sperat  
Dafne Vicari

Ms. Ladd's  
**Grade 4**

### HIGH HONOR

Grace Brocious  
Shannon Pforter  
Jacob Shutts  
Liley Stevens  
Zachary Young  
**HONOR**  
Lola Bush  
Gwen Coon  
Garret Hathaway  
Crue Judson  
Mandy Phillips  
Michael Race  
**MERIT**  
Isaiah Parker

Ms. Gibbons'  
**Grade 5**

### PRINCIPAL'S LIST

Jackson Millet  
**HIGH HONOR**  
Graycie Barber  
Maegan Locke  
**HONOR**  
Josiah Hannafan  
Dylan Foster

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS - HONOR ROLL - CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS****MERIT**

Leon Breed  
Eric Chapman  
Braedon Hurlbert  
Ariana Cline  
Layla Marshall  
Gavin Newton  
Tyrone O'Neal  
Logan Shutts  
Myah Woods

Mrs. Critelli-Locke's  
**Grade 5**

**PRINCIPAL'S LIST**

Savannah Compton  
Kira Lawrence  
Rhya Richardson  
Angelena Rodriguez

Devens Whalen

**HIGH HONOR**

Molly Amidon

**MERIT**

Taralyn Conway  
Aden Daley  
Kemper Kline  
Nathan Warner  
Alexia Whitt

**Grade 6****PRINCIPAL'S LIST**

Jacob Haggart  
Dakota Baker  
Chloe Green  
Selena Rodriguez  
Jason Barrows

**HIGH HONOR**

Camron Bowman  
Bergen Sperat  
Meara Hathaway  
Isabella Pagano  
Madelyn Murphy  
Abigail Stanton  
Michael Russell  
Jeremy Prince

**HONOR**

Bree Burdick

Justin Booth  
Bree Burdick  
Danica Burrows  
Isaac Rounds  
Abigail Stanton  
Abigail LeDuc  
Owen Tytler

**Grade 7****PRINCIPAL'S LIST**

Brianna Hannafan  
Kassidy Lawrence

**HIGH HONOR**

Noelle Buchovecky  
Calla Lansdowne  
Liam Chisholm

**HONOR**

Wesley Pforter  
Jeff Bragg III  
Layla Shelby  
Avery Hillman  
Christian Marshall  
Adelia Leonardo

**Grade 8****HIGH HONOR**

Cameron Barnes  
Amaya Rounsaville

Kerra Sorrells  
Elliott Millett  
Donald Chapman  
Peytin Burrows  
Neveah Woods  
Jillian Race  
Annabelle Tytler  
Ryder Forrest

**HONOR**

Electra DeGroat  
Kelsey Brown  
Shakiah Glisson  
Jillian Race  
Jessie Nourse  
Estavan Irizarry

**Grade 9****PRINCIPAL'S LIST**

Gavin Richardson  
Madelyn Pforter  
Leland Seamans  
Emily Elwood  
Keely Worlock  
Aloura Rice

**HIGH HONOR**

Julia Hathaway  
Justin Foster  
Abriana Whitt  
Ashley Schlafer  
Kaidance Lansdowne  
Brandon Darrow

**HONOR**

Ruthann Zinn  
Jackie Gibbs  
Marley Clark  
Breanna Shelby  
Hannah Roodenburg  
Camren Daley  
Nicholas Husner  
Christian Welsh  
Morgan Hyer

**Grade 10****PRINCIPAL'S LIST**

Emily Coughlin  
Brooke Judson  
Graycee Forrest  
Daniel Hathaway  
Dylan Skeeel  
Sarah Wood  
Jet Williams

Benjamin Barnes

Tristan Worlock  
Jaidan Degear

**HONOR**

Savanah Marshall  
Sean Millett  
Nicholas Whitmarsh  
Victoria LeDuc  
Alynn Kanaby

Megan Lawrence  
Mitchell Judd  
Ashley Escobar Perez

**Grade 11****PRINCIPAL'S LIST**

Taylor Way  
Kali Lidell

**HIGH HONOR**

Molly Hillman  
Kayla Buchovecky  
Kaitlin Donaghue  
Sawyer Mierke

Kyle Barnes  
Madison Lawley  
Eugene Burrows  
Torrle Randall

**HONOR**

Catherine Chapman  
Jazmine Bowman  
John Glisson  
Redelle Rounsaville  
Franklin Glisson  
Roselea Marsh  
Connor Benedict  
Sadie French  
Jocelyn Smith  
Anthony Hatto

**Grade 12****PRINCIPAL'S LIST**

Elaina Stafford  
Kayla Lawrence  
**HIGH HONOR**  
Tayler Marshall  
Molly Lawrence

**HONOR**

Oliva Millett  
Alexis Hare  
Samantha Formoza  
Morgan Lawrence  
Cameron Judson  
Jeremiah Phillips  
Portia Krichbaum  
Anastasia Glisson  
Aaron Glisson

## February is Heart Health Month

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women in the United States. Every year, 1 in 4 deaths are caused by heart disease. The good news? It is also one of the most preventable diseases. Your heart is the most important muscle in your body, take action to keep it running strong.

We can make healthy changes to lower our risk of developing heart disease. Controlling and preventing risk factors is also important for people who already have heart disease.

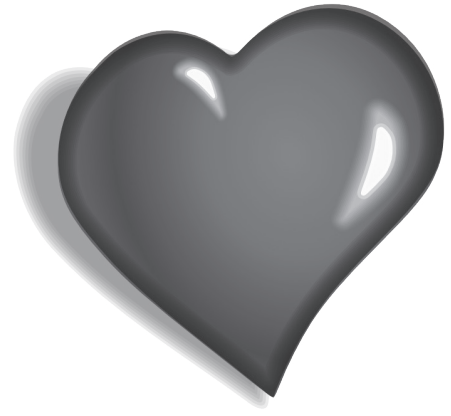
To lower your risk:

- Eat a diet rich in vegetables and fruit, beans and whole grains
- Cut back on cholesterol-rich animal products and processed meats
- Quit smoking and stay away from secondhand smoke
- Manage your blood pressure
- Get active, aerobic exercise and resistance training to strengthen your heart
- Know your family health history
- Have regular check-ups with your doctor

These are all integral aspects of saving lives from this often silent killer.

To reduce our risk of developing heart disease, we need to “Know Our Numbers” on an annual basis. Blood pressure, blood glucose, cholesterol, body mass index (BMI) and waist circumference. These five factors have the potential to raise our risk of having a major complication of heart disease such as heart attack, heart failure, and stroke.

Friday, February 1 is National Wear Red Day, please wear red to support Heart Health Awareness and do your part to keep your heart strong and healthy.



## When to Keep Your Child Home with an Illness

It can be hard to know when to send children to school if they tell you that they do not feel well. Usually, the best place for them is in school, but there are some times when keeping them home to rest or call for an appointment with your health care provider is recommended.

Please keep your child home and/or contact your child's doctor for:

- Fever greater than 100° (taken by mouth)
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea within the last 24 hours
- Severe sore throat along with fever and feeling ill for more than 48 hours, or after exposure to Strep throat infection
- Honey-crusted sores around the nose or mouth or rash on other body parts
- Large amounts of mucous (liquid) from their nose, with face pain or headache
- Severe ear pain or fluid coming from the ear
- Severe headache, especially with fever

If your child has a fever, it is not a good idea to give them medicine like Tylenol or Advil and send them to school because as soon as the medicine wears off, the fever may return and you will be called to come and pick up your child. Please keep children home for 24 hours after the fever ends or they have completed 24 hours of medication if prescribed by your health care provider.

Other Reminders: During the school year, it is a good idea to check your child's head weekly, or when he or she complains of having an “itchy” scalp. Talk to your child and remind him or her not to share or borrow combs, brushes, hats or scarves.

Please watch your child for the following symptoms:

- Please inspect your child's head for the possibility of head lice. Look for small silvery nits fixed to the hair shaft, similar in appearance to dandruff, but not easily removed.
- Where nits have hatched, live lice may be seen.
- If nits or lice are found, please call your healthcare provider regarding appropriate treatment.  
Your child should stay home from school until they have been treated.
- Follow the directions for any medication carefully. Cream rinse and conditioners can decrease the effectiveness of the treatment.

Remind children to throw away used tissues, cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze, keep their hands away from their face, and to wash hands often with soap and warm water. This will help keep everyone healthier.



# DeRuyter Free Library

Phone: (315) 852-6262 • E-mail: [deruyter@midyork.org](mailto:deruyter@midyork.org)

Address: DeRuyter Free Library, 735 Utica St., PO Box 399, DeRuyter, NY 13052

Hours: Mon 9am-5pm Tues/Thurs 9am-7pm Sat 9am-1pm

Closed: Wednesday, Friday and Sunday

## STORY TIME

February 4th, 11th, and 25th at 10:30am. Our story time includes stories, sensory activities, songs, and crafts. All ages are welcome.

## NOTICES

February 18th. The library will be closed in observance of Presidents' Day.

## EVENTS

→ Take Your Child to the Library Day, February 2nd, from 10am to 1pm. Join us for special activities.

→ Book Giveaway, February 2nd. We will be holding the final day of our book giveaway from 10am to 1pm. Thousands of books are available. They are free and there is no limit.

→ Game Club, February 7th from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Tabletop, board, and card games will be available.

→ Dungeons & Dragons Club February 12th from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. D&D is an outlet for creativity, encourages social interaction, and fosters reading comprehension and critical thinking skills.

→ Valentine's Day Craft, February 14th from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

→ Winter Break Gaming, February 19th from 12pm to 1pm.

## Games in the Library



Playing board games and card games helps students build social skills, fine motor skills, reasoning skills, and more. The DCS Library hosts a Game Club every Friday for students in 6th through 12th grades.

We often include Friday game time for other classes, and we hosted game time for all grades during the PBIS celebration in December. We have classic games such as chess, checkers, and *UNO*, as well as newer games such as *Ticket to Ride*, *Set*, *Chronology*, *Apples to Apples Jr.*, and *Rhino Hero*.

If you would like to get in on the fun outside of school hours, the DeRuyter Free Library also hosts a Game Club one Thursday a month from 3:30 to 4:30pm, and has board games available for general use.

→ LEGO Club will be held on February 21st from 12pm to 1pm.

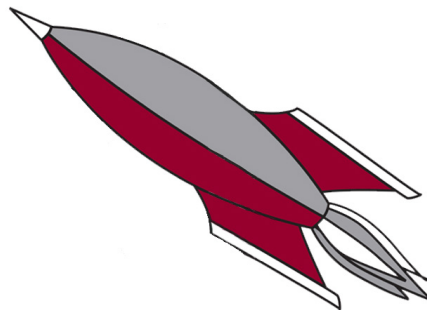
→ Book Club will be held on February 26th from 6pm to 7pm.

→ Tech Help and Homework Help are both available by appointment. E-mail or call for availability.

♥ February is Library Lover's Month ♥

DeRuyter Central School  
711 Railroad Street  
DeRuyter, NY 13052

DeRuyter Central School  
Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
DeRuyter, NY 13052



### **DCS = DISTRICT COMMITTED TO SUCCESS**

**Mission Statement:** The DeRuyter Central School District, in partnership with parents and the community, will educate and empower all students to embrace a passion for learning while developing into respectful, productive members of society.

**Vision Statement:** The DeRuyter Central School District will be committed to providing a safe, healthy and supportive environment where all members of the learning community will reach high expectations as they achieve confidence in their talents and pursue personal success in a complex, interconnected, dynamic world.



This is a friendly reminder that DeRuyter Central School District is Tobacco Free. School Policy prohibits the use of tobacco products. Everywhere. By Everyone. At all times. Thank you for your cooperation.