

April 7, 2015

# Swift Creek Current

Swift Creek Elementary School, 5601 Tryon Road, Raleigh, NC 27606

<http://swiftcreekes.wcpss.net>

919-233-4320

## From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents,

Spring is finally here! I know families are probably glad to finally enjoy a pleasant change in temperatures. With the coming of the warm winds and bright sunshine, we continue to experience changes in our Swift Creek community....

As Ms. Wade has already sent a letter home, you now know that we said goodbye to her last week. We are so thrilled for the exciting job opportunities and marriage that she has on her horizon, but we will miss her dearly. Ms. Wade spent six years as an assistant principal at Swift Creek, beginning her career in administration within the walls of this wonderful school. She learned and grew in her leadership by building relationships with all of you and your students. Her kind heart, patient spirit, level head, and true dedication to the safety, well-being, and education of your children will remain with us forever. We wish her the very best as she travels new roads and know she will visit us when she is in the area.

With Ms. Wade's departure, we are currently posting the vacant position and beginning the task of hiring an addition to our team. We will search carefully for the right fit to match our needs and will keep you posted as we make a decision. Thank you in advance for your patience as work through the hiring process. We will likely not have an assistant principal for a while, but will keep you updated as the process unfolds.

We also welcome Mrs. Candis Burchardi, new Kindergarten teacher to Swift Creek. She is our new teacher for Mrs. Haren, who has recently left us for motherhood. Mrs. Burchardi comes to us with several years of elementary experience in Florida. She is enthusiastic, patient, and is excited about learning more about our Swift Creek Cougar Family. Please take a moment to welcome her if you have a chance.



## Upcoming Events

### April 10

Report cards sent home.

### April 14

- PTA Meeting followed immediately by
- Cougar Chorus Concert in the gym 6:30pm

### April 23

"Once Upon a Time" Drama Performance in the gym 6:30pm

### April 30

- Chick-Fil-A night 5-8pm
- Deadline for Cooking with Kids Contest

## In This Issue

### Music Notes

### Healthy Lifestyles Updates

### Character Education Award Winners – Perseverance

### Chick-Fil-A Night Is April 30

### Results from the Spring Book Fair

### Need Help Planning Teacher Appreciation Week

### Your April Checklist!!!! (See the back page)

A big thank you to all families who came out to enjoy our Math Night festivities at Food Lion on March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. We had a blast helping your students have fun while they learned about math in the everyday world. It was so good to see everyone collaboratively working on the tasks—and smiling too! I am so appreciative of the hard work of our staff and the generosity of Food Lion at the Swift Creek shopping center for allowing us to visit their facility.

We are beginning to finalize dates for the end of year activities. The first administration of End of Grade testing is tentatively scheduled for the week of May 18<sup>th</sup>. 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents please mark your calendars for June 8<sup>th</sup> for our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Celebration at 9:30 am. Because we are unable to go to JellyBean's this year due to transportation issues, we are working collaboratively with PTA to plan a picnic event for June 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm. This will give our students the opportunity to enjoy the company of each other, staff members, and parents. This event is for parents and staff to be able to spend time with 5<sup>th</sup> graders and no siblings will be invited to the picnic. We also have reserved June 5<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon for the annual 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Talent Show. At the writing of this newsletter, PTA does not have any 5<sup>th</sup> grade parent volunteers to coordinate this event. If we do not have two parents to facilitate the Talent Show, it will be cancelled. Please contact Dina Goembel, PTA President, or myself if you are interested in this opportunity. It is always the one of the year's highlights, so we hope to hear from you soon.

As always, thank you for all your support of our school, our staff, and our students. We are so lucky to be able to be able to work toward the common goal of success for your children.

As always, please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Sincerely, Kelly Bradshaw

## School Corner

### Music Notes

April is JAM-Jazz Appreciation Month. We are singing the famous Jazz song "Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In" for our April song and learning about Billy Strayhorn as our Composer.

We have four 5<sup>th</sup> grade students participating in Wake County's All County Chorus this weekend. This is rescheduled from our February snow days. They will be performing in a concert on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm at Millbrook High School. We are proud of these singers - Elijah Harris, Gabriella Mauch, Asher Morwick, and Noah Rhodes - and know they will represent Swift Creek well!



Cougar Chorus performs their Spring Concert on April 14<sup>th</sup> following the 6:30pm PTA meeting. They have worked very hard and are excited to perform this special concert with the theme "Just For Fun!". We hope you can attend and show your support!

Thank you for supporting music in our school. Please keep up with music happenings through twitter - @SwiftCreekMusic and our website - <https://sites.google.com/a/wcpss.net/swift-creek-music/home>

Musically, Mrs. Huddle, Music Teacher

## Healthy Lifestyles

### Distribution of Walking Wednesdays Tokens

The first Walking Tokens have been distributed for those who have earned them through participation in our Walking Wednesdays program! Remember, one “walking token” is earned for every 10 laps (2 miles) walked, so encourage your child to stick with it to earn their tokens! If your child has not earned a token yet but is continuously participating, they will earn one soon! Help us help your kids get active, and send them in on Wednesdays with comfortable shoes as well as encouragement to participate!

### Cooking with Kids Winner

Don't forget to enter our monthly **Cooking with Kids** raffle! All you need to do is cook a meal with your child, document the process through a few photos, and email a description of your dinner preparation and accompanying photos to [realfooddoc@gmail.com](mailto:realfooddoc@gmail.com).

You will be entered into a random drawing to win a \$20 gift certificate to a local grocery store (where you can purchase more ingredients to make another family meal!). Studies have shown that one of the best ways to get your child to eat healthier foods—and actually enjoy them—is to have them help with meal preparation, so get in the kitchen and start cooking together! Submit entries throughout the entire month. The next drawing will occur on April 30.

### The Next Session of Tennis and Golf Lessons Starts April 21. Sign Up Today!

The first session of our new after-school Tennis and Golf programs has been a HUGE success! The next session will begin April 21, so sign-up now! Lessons are offered in 6-week sessions, for your choice of either Tennis or Golf, right after school (4-5pm), right on campus. This program is for ALL levels, and ALL equipment is provided. The program is held rain or shine (taken indoors if necessary). Cost for each 6-week session is \$105 per child. SIGN UP TODAY at <http://westwakecounty.playtga.com> (on the left side of the screen, go to “LOCATION” and select “Swift Creek Elementary”).

## Character Education Awards: Perseverance

In March, the PE, Art, and Music teachers recognized these classes for the character trait of perseverance:

**Music** – Mrs. Jackson's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class

**PE** – Mrs. Phillip's 1<sup>st</sup> grade class

**Art** – Mrs. Robinson's Kindergarten class

Congratulations to these students for being recognized for the Perseverance Character Education award.

### Kindergarten

**Mrs. Harris**

Yonas Haile  
Nyzair Crumpler  
Brandon Mata-Damian

**Ms. Lipe**

Mabel Bertone  
Jordan Dameron  
Jaidyn Partin

**Mrs. Haren**

Cj Glover Rowe  
Estefania Villegas-Ornelas  
Hussain Abdul -Hakim

**Mrs. Robinson**

Ilaijh Ortiz  
Landen Haithcock  
Ashya Lee

**Mrs. Tanner**

Gavin Pearce

### First Grade

**Mrs. Phillips**

Bryson Gatling  
Brian Hickey  
Devon Kelly

**Ms. Zardas**

Ryan Ashrafi  
Colt Jackson  
Samantha Miller

**Ms. Cillian**

Citlali Torres Lopez

**Mrs. Butler**

Mason Garrett  
Mikel Flamenco Lopez  
Ophelia Jacobson  
Emelin Rodriguez Ventura  
Lena Oakley

### Second Grade

**Mrs. Ellis**

Akeilah Bethea  
Jacob Ogundele  
Charli Ruffin

**Mrs. Sedaghat**

Amber Holleman  
Cyril Savage  
Aaliya Williams

**Ms. Koster**

Bianca Ortega  
Madison Byrd  
Malik Berry  
Soraya El Machiadi

**Mrs. Bernstein**

LaNeyah Watson  
Georgia Strickland  
August Langerhans  
Palmer Smith

### Third Grade

**Ms. Herrin**

Eliceo Herrera-Marcelo  
Lysette Rosario

**Ms. Smith**

Johnny Valadez-Lopez  
Ashley Vasquez- Sarmiento

**Mrs. Barker**

Alejandro Brown  
Tisha Parekh  
Shamire Wilkerson  
Kaliyha Manning

**Ms. Wyrsh**

Teairra Bell  
Majesty Branch  
Sebastian Newton  
Omar Yassoub

### Fourth Grade

**Ms. Beauchamp**

Brandon Spaulding  
Isaiah Kelly  
Christian Collado

**Mrs. D'Amelio**

David George  
Ahmed Goubar  
Rosie Ryan

**Ms. Windsor**

Sydney Hamilton  
Gavin Hess  
Gavin Fleury

**Mrs. Fallon**

Yamileth Vasquez  
Morgan Persinger  
Cordell Stegmann  
Deema Habib

### Fifth Grade

**Mr. Krauter**

Sayudith Nunez-Herrera  
Lucas Kube

**Mrs. Coles**

Elias Kellum  
Mia Brown  
Arianne Hite  
Ilyas Falih

**Mrs. Jackson**

William Angell  
Jose Collado  
Veronika Elchaninova  
Margery Vasquez

**Mrs. Pearman**

Kelcey Rogers  
Ashley Salas  
Melis Yildiz  
Zola Cofield  
Chamya Anthony



## SWIFT CREEK ELEMENTARY

### FUNDRAISER

CHICK-FIL-A CROSSROADS PLAZA  
1815 WALNUT ST. CARY NC 27518  
THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2015  
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

By dining with us on Thursday, April 30, 2015,  
20% of your sale will be donated to Swift Creek  
Elementary. You must present a flyer to the  
cashier to receive credit for your order.

**So bring this flyer in on paper or your phone**  
between 5pm - 8pm to Chick-fil-A of  
Crossroads Plaza. Also, don't forget  
the cow and spinning wheel will be there!

So dine in or drive thru---  
we just hope to see you there!

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Amount Spent

### Chick-Fil-A Night Is April 30

Take a night off from cooking! Join us from 5-8pm on April 30 at the Chick-Fil-A in Crossroads. When you show the attached flyer on paper or on your phone, a portion of the proceeds from your sale go to Swift Creek. This flyer can be used whether you dine in or drive thru. Hope you can join us!

### Deadline for Shoe Drive Is April 30

Student Council is sponsoring a shoe drive through April 30. Please donate new or gently used shoes (of all sizes). Put your donations in the boxes in the main hall.

### Results from the Spring Book Fair

Spring book fair was a big success with sales over \$8,000. This gives Mrs. Ramsey more than \$4,000 in Scholastic Dollars to purchase new books for the media center.

Big thank yous to Ms. Killius and Mr. Umstead for running the games and to all the parents who came in to help out by volunteering throughout the week.

An especially huge thank you to Caroline Richardson for organizing the family night games and getting so much community support. Her hard work provided many fun prizes for students as well as our terrific Swift Creek teachers. Mrs. Richardson also secured free dinner for all of our families that came to family night.

Thank you to these businesses for their donations:

- NY Pizza
- Roly Poly
- Harris Teeter
- Food Lion



### Help Plan Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation Week is fast approaching, and the Hospitality Committee needs your help.

Would you like to help plan activities for Teacher Appreciation Week? Do you have a business that is willing to donate items (flowers, food, coupons for free food/items) for Teacher Appreciation Week. We are always in need of treats for goody bags for the teachers.

If you would like to help in any way, please email Elizabeth at [Elizabeth.Worthy@me.com](mailto:Elizabeth.Worthy@me.com).

## Your April Checklist

Use this checklist to remember what's coming up at the Creek during the month of April.

- **Today:** Volunteer to help plan Teacher Appreciation Week. Please email Elizabeth at [Elizabeth.Worthy@me.com](mailto:Elizabeth.Worthy@me.com).
- **April 8:** It's Walking Wednesday. Remind your child to wear comfortable shoes, so he can participate in this fun program during recess.
- **April 10:** Report cards sent home. Be sure to check those book bags!
- **April 14 6:30pm:** Attend PTA meeting and Cougar Chorus Concert in the gym.
- **April 15:** It's Walking Wednesday. Remember those sneakers!
- **April 17-April 24 9:10am:** Distribution of Character Education Awards – Good Judgement – in the media center.
- **April 20-24:** Administrative Professionals' Week. Stop by the office and tell our staff how much you appreciate everything they do!
- **April 21:** Spring session for Golf and Tennis lessons from TGA starts. Lessons are after school from 4-5pm and last for 6 weeks. This session costs \$105. Sign your child up for Golf or Tennis lessons from TGA. Go to <http://westwakecounty.playtga.com> (on the left side of the screen, go to "LOCATION" and select "Swift Creek Elementary").
- **April 22:** It's Walking Wednesday. Has your child earned a walking token yet?
- **April 23 6:30pm:** Attend the drama performance "Once Upon a Time" in the gym.
- **April 29:** It's Walking Wednesday. Hopefully, there is no rain in the forecast, and our students can earn more walking tokens. A child receives a token for every 10 laps he completes around the track.
- **April 30:**
  - Deadline for shoe drive sponsored by Student Council. Send in your new or gently used shoes today. There are boxes in the front hall for your donations.
  - **5-8pm:** Eat dinner out! Attend Chick-Fil-A night at the Chick-Fil-A in Crossroads. Remember to bring your flyer either in paper or on your phone, so Swift Creek will receive a portion of the proceeds from your sale!
  - Submission deadline for this month's Cooking with Kids contest. The winner receives a \$20 gift certificate to a local grocery store for making more delicious family meals. All you need to do is cook a meal with your child, document the process through a few photos, and email a description of your dinner preparation and accompanying photos to [realfooddoc@gmail.com](mailto:realfooddoc@gmail.com).