

April 26, 2016

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,

I want to begin this newsletter with a huge thank you for all our parent volunteers who have helped with various items this month. From collaborating with our teachers on the Treasure Island performance, to assisting with our Book Fair, to helping to execute our Spring Fling, to planning our Graduation activities and the Talent show, to reading with our students, we are so lucky to have your support. Without you, these events would not be possible and we **all** thank you for your commitment.

Our yearly Spring Fling event is scheduled for Friday, April 29th. The rain date is May 4th. Ms. Graves, the PE teacher, has worked with several of our parents to plan and execute the day and we know it will be a great experience for our students. There will be a K-2 event and a 3-5 event, and students will be outside longer than in years past. Students will rotate as a class to 13 stations. Volunteers will work each of the stations to assist students and staff with the activities. K-2 will be on the field from approximately 10-12 pm and 3-5 will be on the field from approximately 1-3 pm. If you are a registered volunteer and would still like to volunteer, please email Ms. Graves (sgraves@wcpss.net) or use the sign up genius on the school website. Even though only a few events involve small amounts of water, you can send a change of clothes/towel for your child if you would like. Hats can be helpful as well if it is a sunny day. Please remember that we cannot apply sunscreen without a 1702 form, so please apply that before leaving home. We look forward to the fun next Friday!

This week is Administrative Professionals week, and we will be honoring our wonderful office staff who help our school run smoothly each day. If you are in our building, please take a moment to thank Mrs. Silva, Mrs. Kmec, Ms. Gunter, and Ms. McAlpin. They work tirelessly to welcome our parents, answer the phones, administer medication, complete attendance, and the list goes on and on. We are so thankful for them!



This Week!

- **Thursday:** Swift Creek Night at the Chick-Fil-A in Crossroads 5-8pm

Remember to bring the yellow flyer that you received in today's Tuesday folder! Swift Creek only receives a portion of the sale if you turn in the flyer with your order.

- **Friday:** Spring Fling
 - K-2: 10am-12pm
 - 3-5: 1-3pm

In This Issue

Reminder for All Walkers:
Dismissal is 4:05pm

Music Notes

A Special Thank You from Mrs. Tanner

Our Groovy Spring Book Fair Totals!!!

Register for Camp Invention Today!

Mark Your Calendars: Your Monthly Checklists – Including:

- EOG testing schedule
- 5th grade Graduation Schedule

The week of May 2nd will begin our Teacher Appreciation week. I am sure you will agree how wonderful our teachers are, because each one of you has had at least one teacher (and likely way more than that) in this building who has made difference in your child's life. This group of ladies and gentlemen work extremely hard to connect with your children every day and will go the extra mile, taking care of their needs on a daily basis. They come early, stay late, and work on the weekends. They give students lunch money, buy them books from the Book Fair, dry their tears, and make them laugh. They desire for students to be successful and plan instruction to meet their needs. I feel very fortunate to work with them every day. Please take a moment next week to thank them for all they do. Our PTA will be recognizing our wonderful teachers and teacher assistants with several activities during the week.

Don't forget that our Chick-Fil-A Night is Thursday, April 28th beginning at 5:00 pm. The fun will end at 8:00 pm. This will be at the CrossRoads location. Please drop by and enjoy dinner and some fun with our Swift Creek families.

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

Sincerely, Kelly Bradshaw

Attention: Walkers Dismissed at 4:05pm

Please be reminded that we are unable to dismiss students as walkers during carpool line each day due to safety of all students. We will call all registered walkers for dismissal at 4:05 pm each day. Please refer to the 2015-2016 Student Parent Handbook if you have questions.

Music Notes from Mrs. Huddle

Congratulations to Cougar Chorus and Drama Club for their fantastic performances of "Treasure Island" last week. A special "Thanks!" to our chorus and drama parents who faithfully brought and picked up their children for rehearsals. Your dedication and support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you from Mrs. Tanner

Mrs. Tanner (from the CCK Kindergarten class) would like to thank everyone who donated baby wipes and toys for their class treasure chest. Thanks for coming to the rescue!

This class currently needs sand toys – new or gently used. Donations of old Tupperware or measuring cups would also be helpful. If you have any to donate, please send them to school labelled "Mrs. Tanner's class". You can drop off your donations in the office.

Addendum: Additional Character Ed Award Winners

Please congratulate these students for winning the Character Ed award of Good Judgment:

- From Mrs. Sedghat's 2nd grade class: Samantha D, Coziah M, Citlali T, Camden W
- From Ms. Shore's 2nd grade class: Scyreniti D, Jennifer C

Upcoming Music Performances

We hope you can attend these special concerts to support our students! All performances are in the gym.

- Thursday, April 28 at 2:00pm – 5th grade guitar concert
- Thursday, May 5 at 2:50pm – 4th grade recorder concert
- Thursday, May 12 at 11:00am – Kindergarten's "Our Year in Song" concert

Book Fair Totals

We had a super groovy book fair this spring! Book Fair Sales totaled \$10,056. **These sales along with the fall book fair sales raised \$11,470 toward the purchase of new books for the school library. Also, every child in the entire school was giving a free book to take home as part of each book fair week.** Super cool!

The book fairy contest jars raised over \$275. That money was used to purchase books for students here at Swift Creek Elementary. The NC State jar had the most amount of money donated so that means Ms. Bradshaw (a big UNC fan) had to dress up in NC State clothing for a day. Oh No!

Our big winners of the family night raffle baskets were:

- Fenn J. from Ms. Lipe's Kindergarten class
- Sylvie S. from Ms. Smith's 3rd grade class
- Allie Prasad from Ms. Mazuchowski's 5th grade class

The classes that won the sunglasses for being the best estimators were:

- Mrs. Sedaghat's 2nd grade class
- Mrs. Beauchamp's 4th grade class
- Mrs. Coles' 5th grade class

Grandparents who sent money in for their grandchildren to purchase books are receiving a special thank you note with their grandchild's photo on it from the Book Fair committee. Way to go, Grandparents!

Thank you to all the parents who volunteered their precious time to help set up, run, and take down the book fair. We could not have done it without you! Here are just a few of those amazing parents:

Ann-Margaret Alexander	Cristy Johnson	Julie Nolan
Beth Calloway	Jerry Justice	Nehal Outlaw
Catherine Ferguson	Natasha Kirby	Delores Ragsdale
Erin Galloway	Aimee Langerhans	Caroline Richardson
Melinda Gelsinger	Anamika Laad	Jaimi Smith
Michelle Holyes	Jennifer Natarcola	Elizabeth Worthy
Amy Johns		

The book fair committee also wants to thank all of our generous neighborhood businesses that donated free items during book fair week.

- Starbucks provided free coffee to all the teachers at the teacher preview breakfast.
- Domino's Pizza gave pizza to the teachers during the week.
- NY Pizza, Harris Teeter, Food Lion, Lowe's and Roly Poly provided the free dinner served during family night to all of our Swift Creek families.

Extra Special Thank You

And last but certainly not least, thank you to the amazing Book Fair Committee for running two amazing and enjoyable Book Fairs this year! **Christie Benjamin, Clair Green, Sela Vaughn, and Mrs. Ramsey worked hours behind the scenes to do this for our school. If you see them in the halls, please give them a peace sign (or a high five) as a thank you!**

Looking for a Summer Camp? Registration for Camp Invention Is Now Open!

Camp Invention will be at Swift Creek June 20-24. Registration for Camp Invention is now open! Camp Invention takes place at Swift Creek and is taught by Swift Creek teachers. For more information, or to register, please visit www.campinvention.org or contact the director, Margarette Harris at mharris5@wcpss.net

Your April Checklist

- **April 20:** Single Subject Acceleration (SSA) window opens. SSA is the practice of assigning a student to a higher-grade level than is typical, given the student's age, for the purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities.
- **April 25-29:** Office Administration Appreciation Week. Our theme is "Thank you for helping us Bloom!" Please thank Ms. Bradshaw, Ms. Miller, Ms. Gunter, Ms. McAlpin, Ms. Silva, Ms. Kmec and Ms. Cowan for all they do.
- **April 28**
 - **2:00pm:** 5th grade guitar concert in the gym
 - **5-8pm:** Swift Creek Night at Chick-Fil-A in Crossroads
- **April 29:**
 - Spring Fling. All classes will have an opportunity to play games on the field behind the school during this annual tradition. K-2 grade will be on the field from 10-12. 3rd-5th grades will be on the field from 1-3pm.
 - Turn in your Box Tops, Labels for Education, and Coke bottle tops!

Your May Checklist

- **May 2-6: Teacher Appreciation Week!** Our theme is "We'll Circle the World to Thank Our Teachers."

The PTA has a week filled with activities for the teachers.

- Monday – Write your teacher a love note
- Tuesday – Bring in classroom supplies for to make a "Supply Eiffel Tower"
- Wednesday – Bring your teacher a homemade gift or note.
- Thursday – Bring in your teacher's favorite snack item.
- Friday – Wear your teacher's favorite color

- **May 4:** Rain date for Spring Fling
- **May 5 2:50pm:** 4th grade recorder concert in the gym
- **May 10 6:30pm:** PTA meeting.

What Is Camp Invention?

Camp Invention is a summer enrichment camp designed for children entering grades one through six. Camp Invention features collaborative learning opportunities led by local teachers in a safe environment. At Camp Invention, our top priority is to provide quality programming in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. So our unrivaled program presents essential STEM concepts through the most creative hands-on activities. Year after year, we offer innovative curricula that align with state and national education standards and meet our own rigorous testing requirements. We strive to enhance each child's ability to learn through teamwork and subject immersion while providing exciting challenges and cultivating a new appreciation for discovery.

PARENTS: On Friday, the PTA is hosting a Mexican luncheon for the teachers. If you would like to volunteer to sit in the class while all the teachers eat together, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/joz8pm9>.

Please remember if you cover the classroom, you need to be a registered volunteer.



- **May 19 5:30pm:** Kindergarten Open House. This is an opportunity for entering kindergarteners (kids who will start Swift Creek in August) to get a sneak peek at what school is all about!
- **May 30:** Memorial Day. No School

Testing Dates

- **May 2-June 2** mCLASS testing window
- **May 26th – June 2:** EOG testing.

Please note that we cannot ensure that all EOG testing will be complete by this date. The end date is determined by the amount of testing make ups that must be completed due to absences.

Your June Checklist

- **June 8 10:30am:** 5th Grade Graduation and picnic
- **June 9:** Last Day of School! 5th Grade Talent Show
- **June 13:** If any parent feels strongly about their child's unique characteristics or needs in the next grade level, they are welcome to submit a letter to Ms. Bradshaw by June 13th. This letter should describe the type of teacher only or any factors about your student that might be helpful in selecting a placement for them. As we are unable to grant teacher requests and the make-up of grade teams are subject to change, we appreciate you not mentioning any teacher names.

Proctors Needed!

According to state law, we must test our 3rd-5th graders in the last 10 calendar days of school. In order to make testing happen seamlessly for our staff, we need 18 proctor volunteers to help out! If you are a registered volunteer and are willing to help with testing, please contact Mrs. Ramsey at mwramsey@wcpss.net

- 3rd-5th grade testing: May 26 and 27
- 4th and 5th grade Science: June 1 and June 2 (just 4th grade)

You will need to attend a short training and on testing days should plan to be available from 9:15-1:15. In most cases, you should be done by 1pm.

Schedule for 5th Grade Graduation: June 8, 2016

10:00 - 10:20 am	Check-in at the office
10:30 - 11:30am	Graduation in the Gym
11:30-11:45am	Picnic near Playground at Basketball Court -- behind the school
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for your child to change out of their nice graduation clothes • Pick up meal tickets at the picnic area • Sign up for kickball • Socialization time
11:45-12:45pm	Lunch and Cake
12:45-12:55pm	Recognition of 5 th grade volunteers
12:55-1:10pm	Class Photograph
1:10-1:40pm	Kickball games, chalk graffiti, yearbook signing, memory board, mist machine
1:45pm	Farewell
2:00pm	Talent Show – Dress Rehearsal (Groups A and B)
	Students who are participating in the Talent Show on June 9 must attend the dress rehearsal. Parents may attend the dress rehearsal. Students who are not participating should return to their classrooms.

