

January 12, 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,

Welcome to 2016! A new year brings excitement and a promise of new beginnings, and I hope your year is off to a fabulous start.

**We want to inform all families that we will be welcoming our new PE teacher, Sarah Graves, to Swift Creek on January 19<sup>th</sup>.** We are so excited to invite her on board, as she brings energy, excitement, experience, and a strong desire to motivate students for lifelong fitness. Sarah comes to us from New Hanover county schools, where she has experience in Title 1 settings. She has brought several extracurricular activities to her previous schools and we are thrilled she has chosen our school to share her talents. Please give her a hearty welcome when you have the opportunity.

As we say hello to Sarah, **we say goodbye to Mrs. Grace Roh, second grade teacher.** Mrs. Roh has chosen to spend time with her family and we will miss her wisdom, guidance, and the endless energy that she has spent motivating our second grade students. We are saddened that Mrs. Roh will not finish the year with us, but we do appreciate the time she has spent here. We thank her for her commitment to our school and wish her the very best as she transitions at the end of the day on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. We are currently interviewing for the position and will inform her students and families as well as the school community as soon as a recommendation has been made.

**At Swift Creek, we are now in the midst of our mid-year testing, including mCLASS literacy assessments for all grade levels and CASE 21 for grades 2-5. Teachers will also be completing report cards for issuance on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.** The Home Connect letter will be sent home shortly after report cards (after with the results of the mCLASS assessments for your child. This document is a good resource, as it gives suggestions for families to use in improving student reading skills.



## It's Winter Time! How to Learn about School Closings or Delays

Please follow media closely for decisions related to school delays and closings. You can also access this information via [www.wcpss.net](http://www.wcpss.net) website and on Twitter. The school will not send a separate voicemail in the event of inclement weather that affects the entire school system. Please note that After School Care will not operate if we dismiss early. Before School Care will operate with the same delays as the school system in the case of late arrivals.

## In This Issue

Music Notes

Counselor's Corner

Science Fair is THIS Thursday

Sign Up for After School Spanish Lessons

Your January and February Checklists

Winter has definitely now arrived! Please be sure that your children are dressed warmly and in layers each day to combat the cold temperatures. **It is also important for everyone to ensure that their child's teachers have the correct dismissal information on the inclement weather sheets you returned at the beginning of the year.** If we have early dismissal of any kind, we will send your child home according to the method on the sheet unless you call us and give other information. Please follow media closely for decisions related to school delays and closings. You can also access this information via [www.wcpss.net](http://www.wcpss.net) website and on Twitter. The school will not send a separate voicemail in the event of inclement weather that affects the entire school system. Please note that After School Care will not operate if we dismiss early. Before School Care will operate with the same delays as the school system in the case of late arrivals.

You may have heard about the Open House that we will be having on Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am or 6:00 pm. This Open House is for families not currently enrolled in our school or for new Kindergarten families. Feel free to pass along to your neighbors to join us for a short presentation and tour at 10:30 am or 6:00 pm if they would like to know more about Swift Creek. There will be a question and answer session and new Kindergarten parents will have the opportunity to ask our Kindergarten teachers a few questions.

We are also looking forward to our Science Fair on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Please join us in the cafeteria to hear our award winners announced and see the hard work of our students. This is always one of my favorite events—as I am always impressed with student thinking and level of interest in creating these projects.

As always, thank you for all you do for your children and our school. Stay warm!

Sincerely, Kelly Bradshaw



## Music Notes from Mrs. Huddle

Our January song is "I've Been Working on the Railroad." This song is an American folk song that dates back to the mid-1800s. Our composer is Benjamin Britten, an English pianist, composer, and conductor who lived from 1913 to 1976.

Cougar Chorus resumes weekly rehearsals on Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 8am in the gym. We will be joining with Drama Club to present a musical in April. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students are invited to join us this semester! 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders interested in singing in Cougar Chorus for the first time should get a permission form from Mrs. Huddle.

Musically, Mrs. Huddle



## It's Snack Time – for the Staff!

The Hospitality Committee is hosting an early release power snack on January 15 for the teachers. Please visit [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0D49A4A829A0FA7-early3](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0D49A4A829A0FA7-early3) to donate items.

Please contact Elizabeth Worthy at [Elizabeth.worthy@me.com](mailto:Elizabeth.worthy@me.com) if you are interested in helping the committee, or getting involved with preparations for Teacher Appreciation Week in May.

## Counselor's Corner -- News from Mrs. Chadwick

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### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents: Know Your Middle School Options

5th Grade Parents... Your children had the opportunity to learn about Dillard Drive Elementary from their principal, assistant principal, and school counselor who visited us on Wednesday, January 6th. Dillard Dive is hosting an open house Tuesday, January 12th from 6:30-8:00pm. It will be a great opportunity to see the school and learn more about what they offer!

If you would like to apply for your fifth grader to attend a magnet middle school next year, the online application period is open now through January 22, 2016. You can find more information at [www.wcpss.net/domain/90](http://www.wcpss.net/domain/90).



### Guidance this Month...

It is such a pleasure to teach each of your children in guidance. Here's a list of topics we'll be covering in classroom guidance this month.

- Kindergarten: Self-Discipline: Define, discuss, and practice
- 1<sup>st</sup> grade: Disgust: Continue our "Inside Out" theme and learn how to politely decline things we don't like
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – Diversity: Respecting differences in how each of us learn
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade - Conflict Resolution: Learning to talk out differences using a tool called a Peace Passes
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade - Bullying: Learn ways to handle bullying situations through a game called No Bully Basketball
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade - Stress Busters: Learn ways to balance responsibilities using a video tool from Trevor Romain called "How to Do Homework without Throwing Up"

### Swift Creek Service Club Starts Taking Action!!!

In December, our Swift Creek Service Club members took the time to write and decorate cards for residents in an Alzheimer's unit of a local care facility.

Stay tuned, because in early February, we will be holding a school wide food drive to benefit the food pantry at Urban Ministries of Wake County!

We are proud of our 5th graders who have chosen to serve our school and community!!!



## Character Education Awards: Kindness and Self-Discipline

In December and January, we celebrate these students for demonstrating Kindness and Self-Discipline.

Kindergarten	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade
<b><u>Mrs. Harris</u></b> Dorian K. Nora V. Seth B. Trevon S. *****	<b><u>Mrs. Phillips</u></b> Arko M. Ava G. Cesia S.C. Tylan R. *****	<b><u>Mrs. Roh</u></b> Sam D. Mariah H. Catherine Grace H. ***** Emelin R.V.	<b><u>Ms. Herrin</u></b> Matthew F. Amber H. ***** Palmer S. Hazel K. Alex H.	<b><u>Ms. Beauchamp</u></b> Enara W. Luke H. Zainab A. *****	<b><u>Mr. Krauter</u></b> Jessica R. Ruqayyah A.H. Phoenix K. ***** Ronit J. David P. Miguel G.
<b><u>Ms. Lipe</u></b> Logan L. Malak B. Jake K. Emma G. ***** Michael A. Caitlin A. Liam B.	<b><u>Ms. Zardas</u></b> David O. Lucy P. Norman W. ***** Suhey E.B. Cooper J. Kimberlin S.F.	<b><u>Mrs. Sedaghat</u></b> Ryan A. Lincoln F. Danny G. Jillian V. ***** Ryan A. Cooper B. Samantha D. Fernanda F. Audrey S.	<b><u>Ms. Smith</u></b> Yadira O. G. Zoe P. Lonzie R. ***** Elijah A.	<b><u>Mrs. D'Amelio</u></b> Kaylee M. Adriyana L. Ben B. Sasha B. Javier B.U. Mariam K. ***** Grace R. Christopher P. Isabel S.	<b><u>Mrs. Coles</u></b> Cameron R. Alayna A. Andrew M. ***** Antonio A.S. Abdullah J. Sean B.
<b><u>Mrs. Sharif-Clark</u></b> Aiden H. Cyvion S. Darean F. Gabriel S. ***** Alaina W. Meizi G.	<b><u>Ms. Cillian</u></b> Shatillya E. Stella P. Daniel M. ***** Beatrice K. Leah B. Andrei B.	<b><u>Miss Millichap</u></b> Jim H. Ophelia J. Annalee T. ***** Milan O. Max O. Chrystina H.	<b><u>Ms. Burchardi</u></b> Liam O. Emma M. ***** Brayden A. Marcus L.	<b><u>Ms. Windsor</u></b> Joshua H. Teairra B. Alasia W. ***** Ava H. Alasia W. Ania P. Ashley V.S.	<b><u>Ms. Mazuchowski</u></b> Emma V. Konswayla G. ***** Evelyn G. Gavin H. Deema H.
<b><u>Mrs. Robinson</u></b> Zalan M. Bryan T. L. Jake H. ***** Bara K. Brenna J. Ava K. Luke E.	<b><u>Mrs. Butler</u></b> Gavin C. Gabriella R.T. Candace B. ***** Gage H. Iasia S. Gabriella R.T.	<b><u>Mrs. Woods</u></b> Seth S. Lily N. Jordan P. Isaiah S. Akram H. Jawa Y. ***** Alize B. Emilie B. Eliana B.	<b><u>Ms. Wyrsh</u></b> T'Niyah G. Andrea F. G. Soraya E. Beron G. R. ***** Susan M. Billy M. Emerzon A. Kevin N. Madison B. Claire L.	<b><u>Mrs. Fallon</u></b> Kevin C.V. Jay C. Isrea B. ***** Tori B. Sam H. Anas G.	<b><u>Mrs. Sandersen</u></b> Mira C. Christopher T. ***** Alex M. Billiah O. Lauren P.

## After School Spanish Classes – Sign Up Today

Registration is now open for After School Spanish. Classes are Wednesdays January 27-March 16 4-5pm and the cost of each session is \$120. Siblings receive a 10% discount. Register online at [www.explorelearningprograms.com](http://www.explorelearningprograms.com). Call 919-805-0918 with questions or email [info@explorelearningprograms.com](mailto:info@explorelearningprograms.com).

## Your January Checklist

- **Jan 12 6:30-8:00pm: 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents!** Open House at Dillard Middle School.
- **Jan 14:**
  - **9:14am:** Swift Creek Science Fair! 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders must turn in their entries to the cafeteria. Get those entries turned in before the 9:15am bell rings!
  - **10:30am and 6:00pm:** Kindergarten Open House tours for families not currently enrolled in our school or for new Kindergarten families.
  - **6:30-7:30pm:** Recognition ceremony for the Science Fair. During this time, everyone is welcome to tour the fair!
- **Jan 15:**
  - **1:15pm:** Early Release: School dismisses at 1:15pm.
  - **For 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders:** AIG spring nomination window ends. Send your request to Mrs. Green at [mgreen2@wcpss.net](mailto:mgreen2@wcpss.net). When submitting your request, please be sure to include your child's first and last name, grade, and homeroom teacher. Student who are currently enrolled in the AIG program do not need to reapply, unless it is to add an additional area of service. **Please remember that this is the nomination window for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students only.**
- **Jan 18 – Jan 19:** School closed for Martin Luther King, Jr holiday and Teacher Workday.
- **Jan 20 8:00am:** Cougar Chorus rehearsals start in the gym. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students are invited to join us this semester! 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders interested in singing in Cougar Chorus for the first time should get a permission form from Mrs. Huddle.
- **Jan 22:** Report cards sent home. Check those book bags!
- **Jan 25, 26, and 27 9:10am:** Character Ed Awards in the media center. This month's trait is self-discipline.

## Science Fair is This Thursday!

This year's Swift Creek Elementary School Science Fair will be held THIS Thursday, January 14th in the cafeteria. Students should check-in their projects in the cafeteria BEFORE the 9:15 AM bell sounds. A recognition ceremony will be held in the cafeteria from 6:30-7:30 PM and parents, family, and friends are welcome to view the projects during this time.



## Your February Checklist

- **Feb 4 6:30-8:00pm:** PTA Social. Want to learn more about our PTA? Or do you want to become more involved in the Swift Creek Community? Everyone is welcome to this PTA social. Contact Marie Dexter at [mariecdexter@gmail.com](mailto:mariecdexter@gmail.com) for more information.
- **Feb 12 1:15pm:** Early Release Day! School dismisses at 1:15pm.
- **Feb 15:** Teacher Work Day. No school for students.