

January 13, 2014

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 back and Happy New Year! I was so thrilled to have our students and staff back together after the long winter break. Our hearts and our hallways are empty during these vacations and I was glad to see the smiles once again. I wish you all a prosperous year, with new beginnings and promises.

Winter has definitely arrived with a bang. 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, dismissals, and closings. You can also access this information via www.wcpss.net website and on Twitter. Per Wake County instructions, the school will not send a separate mass voicemail in the event of inclement weather that affects the entire school system. We will put any early dismissal on our school info app message if at all possible. In addition, office staff will update the message on the main phone line (919-233-4320) with any delays, closings, or early dismissals. 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 delays. For example, with a two hour delay, Before School Care will begin at 9:00 am. Thank you for helping us to keep students safe during the winter season!

This month we welcome new staff into our family. Peggy Schlossman is our new teacher assistant who will be working primarily in Kindergarten with Mrs. Harris' class. She is excited to be joining the phenomenal Kindergarten team and looks forward to contributing to our school with her previous teacher assistant



Upcoming Events

January 13 – TONIGHT!

- Lufkin Middle School Open House 6pm
- PTA Meeting with guest speaker on work/life balance 6:30pm in Swift Creek Media Center

January 19-20

No School

January 22

Science Fair 6:30pm in the Cafeteria

January 27

Report Cards sent home

January 30

End of nomination window for AIG services

January 31

Deadline for Cooking with Kids Contest

February 6

Orders due for Winter Spirit Wear

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experience from another state. A recommendation has also been made for a part time custodian and the Speech Language Pathologist, and we will update you when those staff have been hired through our Wake County Human Resources. I know that you will extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to these individuals as they learn what a wonderful school they have embraced.

Please mark your calendars for January 22nd when we will be showcasing our Science Fair projects in the evening from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the cafeteria. We hope you will be able to attend to see how hard our students have been working. I am always so proud of their work—and you will be impressed with their scientific thinking and display.

Thank you for all you do to support your child's learning. Please remember that the staff at Swift Creek Elementary is always available to assist you in ways to enrich your child's learning at home. Never underestimate the power of reading nightly and having your child summarize the stories or chapters read. Make a commitment to having your child read each night.

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

Sincerely, Kelly Bradshaw

School Corner

Music Notes

Our January song is "Puff the Magic Dragon". This beloved children's song was written in 1963 by Peter Yarrow and Lenny Lipton. We are enjoying singing it in class! Our composer this month is Clara Wieck Schumann. Clara lived from 1819 to 1896 in Germany. She is remembered for her beautiful piano works, sixty year concert career, and being the super mom of eight children!

Cougar Chorus resumes on Wednesday, January 21st and will continue each Wednesday through April. This semester we are inviting third graders to join us! Interested 3rd grade singers should get a permission form from Mrs. Huddle. We will perform a spring concert in April.

Thank you for your support of music in our school. Please visit the music room on twitter: @SwiftCreekMusic and our website at <https://sites.google.com/a/wcpss.net/swift-creek-music/home>

Mrs. Huddle, Music Teacher

Need Bus Or Early Dismissal Information? Get the School Info App!

Receive notifications about bus delays, closings due to inclement weather, and other general announcements on your iPhone, iPad, and Android devices. The Swift Creek Elementary SchoolInfoApp is free and can be found in the Apple App Store and on Google Play by searching for "School Info".

Congratulations Students in All-County Chorus

Four of our 5th grade chorus singers have been selected to participate in Wake County's All County Chorus. These students will spend a weekend in February with a choral clinician rehearsing selected pieces and performing a concert with 100 other singers. Congratulations to Asher Morwick, Elijah Harris, Gabriella Mauch, and Noah Rhodes. We know they will represent Swift Creek well!

Open House and Tours: Lufkin Middle School

Lufkin Middle School is hosting an Open House on January 13, 2015 at 6:00pm. Tours of the school will be held each Tuesday starting on January 20 from 9-10 and 1-2. To sign up, see the website for Lufkin Middle School.

Academically and Intellectually Gifted Program: Spring Nomination Window Ends Jan. 30

If you would like to nominate a child for AIG services, please submit your request in writing. You may send the note in your child's Tuesday folder or email Mrs. Green at mgreen2@wcpss.net. Please remember that AIG services are provided to 4th and 5th grade students only.

Students who are already identified for AIG services do not need to be nominated unless it is to add an additional area of service.

Healthy Lifestyles

Cooking with Kids Winner for December

Congratulations to our **Cooking With Kids** winner for December—Sophia Dexter! Sophia and her mom made *Frozen Yogurt Pops*. They combined fresh fruits, including strawberries and bananas, with vanilla yogurt and milk, and whipped everything up in a blender to achieve the consistency of a smoothie. Then they froze portions of the smoothie into pop molds. Yummy! Way to go, Sophia!

Preparing meals with your kids is a fun way to spend time together, and encourages healthy eating behaviors for the entire family. Don't forget to submit your series of photos (up to 5) documenting your dinner preparation and eating together, and 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!). Submit photos by 1/31/15 for the month of January to realfooddoc@gmail.com

Introducing Walking Wednesdays

Swift Creek is excited to roll out a new Healthy Lifestyles initiative: Walking Wednesdays!

Walking Wednesdays will be an optional activity for your child to participate in. The goal is to motivate our kids to get active and moving! It works like this: every Wednesday (weather dependent) children will have the option to spend their ENTIRE recess walking around the track. The number of laps completed will be recorded and monitored throughout the year. Individual and class awards will be given to children who walk the most laps by the end of the school year. A class

Results from Student Council Food Drive

You helped our Student Council collect a total of **1525 lbs. of food** for Wake County Urban Ministries in late December. Their shelves were bare, and they were very thankful for the donation.

The winning classroom was Ms. Beauchamp's 4th grade with 204 items. Ms. Cillian's class came in a close 2nd place with 176.

Thanks to all of the families who sent in food!



trophy will also be given to the class with the most laps walked. Walking Wednesdays will start soon. Stay tuned for the official start date!

December Super Snippers: Mrs. Zardas' Class

Congratulations Mrs. Zardas' class. In December, Mrs. Zardas' class turned in the most Box Tops (12), Kellogg's Family Reward points (24), and Coke Rewards (123). Believe me that's a lot of Coke bottle caps! Mrs. Zardas' class will receive a small prize and get a certificate for being the Super Snippers of the month.

Help Earn Free Books for Our School: Kellogg's Family Rewards



If you see the Kellogg's Family Rewards icon on your cereal, crackers, or any Kellogg's product, look inside the box for a special 16-digit code. (Here is an example, 15GR-RVYJ-TTJK-NXRJ). Cut out the code and send it to school with your Box Tops, Labels for Education, and Coke bottle caps. Entering this code in the Kellogg's Family Rewards program can help us earn money for our school.

In addition, now through March 31, some codes can help us earn free Scholastic books. Look for the specially-marked Kellogg's products. So far, we've already earned 6 books for Swift Creek! Let's add to that total.

Spanish Classes Resume Tuesday, January 27. Sign Up Today!

Registration is open for Session 2 of after school Spanish classes. Classes start Tuesday January 27 4:00-5:00pm. The spring session includes 12 classes and costs \$170. Send payment to the office or register online at www.explorelearningprograms.com

Character Education Awards: Kindness

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

Music – Miss Koster's 2nd grade class

PE – Mrs. Beauchamp's 4th grade class

Art – Ms. Smith's 3rd grade class

Need Winter Spirit Wear?

Winter Spirit Wear is here with a totally new design! The order forms will be sent home on Tuesday, January 27th. **Orders are due back no later than FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6th.** The orders will be delivered on Friday, February 20th.

Ordering spirit wear is a great way to help raise money for our school and show your school pride! Remember, this is a one-time order only.

Thank you for your support!



Correction to last month's newsletter: For the character trait of courage, the newsletter listed Mrs. Beauchamp's class as the class selected by the PE teacher. This should have been Ms. Smith's 3rd grade class. Way to go, Ms. Smith's class!

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

Kindergarten

Mrs. Harris

Brennan Falcome
Brandon Mata-Damian
Ava Goembel

Ms. Lipe

Demitri Morgan
Jack Lovitt
Stella Pittman

Mrs. Haren

Aamani Nandal
Leah Brooks
Ayanna Kellum

Mrs. Robinson

Ajiona Wilson and Laila Powell

Mrs. Tanner

Christopher Prieto Gonzales

First Grade

Mrs. Phillips

Nataly Figueroa
Camden Walton
Ella Sterling

Ms. Zardas

Aryanna Darnes
Sebastian Mazur
Todd McIver

Ms. Cillian

Sophia Dexter
Jonathan Mata-Damian
Malak Dechir

Mrs. Butler

Lupita Lagunas-Rayos
Justin Schiappa
Justin Pickurel
Lena Oakley

Second Grade

Mrs. Ellis

Yadira Orellana-Gallardo
Gael Rodriguez-Lopez
Beron Gonzalez-Rodriguez

Mrs. Sedaghat

Napoleon Totten
Addie Dewey
Zoe Pacio
Kevin Tucker

Ms. Koster

Adriana Rodriguez
Bianca Ortega
Jaydyn Wells
Robert Stockford

Mrs. Bernstein

Alexis Mayhew
Lonzie Rose
Filsan Abdulahi
Sylvie Stegmann

Third Grade

Ms. Herrin

Anna Bittner
Christian Powell
Christopher Pruitt
Brandon Hall

Ms. Smith

Ashley Vasquez- Sarmiento
Thomas Goembel
Carter Miller
Ayden Leonard

Mrs. Barker

Ben Barrangou
Jay Crumpler
Kaylee Diorio
Kimberly Salas

Ms. Wyrsh

Mason Holzer
Mackenzie Dixon
Lonnie "Trey" Turner
Joshua Hall

Fourth Grade

Ms. Beauchamp

Sarah Smith
Lauren Prillaman
Phoenix Kulp
Edward Gonzalez-Rodriguez

Mrs. D'Amelio

Julian Adam Funak
Gabriel Mercado Santos
Aileen Perez Medina
Cameron Reid
Rosemary Ryan
JT Tate

Ms. Windsor

Audrey Nolan
Caleb Hall
Samuel Wylie
Kieran Battle

Mrs. Fallon

Alayna Arellano
Casey Baragona
Yamileth Vasquez
Jesse Turner

Fifth Grade

Mr. Krauter

Christopher Cartaino
Kaela Curtis
Courtney Van Tassel
Nashrin Uddinr

Mrs. Coles

Grayson Waters
Arianne Hite
Jackie Saye

Mrs. Jackson

Nikolas Gaines
Lucia Mercado Santos
Elijah Greene
Gabriella Mauch

Mrs. Pearman

Chamya Anthony
Kyle Kuttrus
Lisey Pillay
Aztrid Tejada-Maya

For January, Character Education awards begin January 9. This month's trait is Self-Discipline. Look for those award winners in the February newsletter.