

June 2, 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 Families,

It is truly mind boggling that another school year has passed us by. In four short days, we will say goodbye to the memories of the 2014-2015 year. I am filled with pride as I reflect on the hard work and accomplishments of our students and staff. I have said this many times, but I am blessed to work with such talented teachers, supportive families, and wonderful students. I have enjoyed helping your students grow in many areas and thank you for sharing them with me each day. I am happy with the work we have completed this year and know that the collaborative atmosphere and strong family connections have contributed to the success of our students. I look forward many more years of serving you in this learning community.

One of the saddest parts of every school year end is saying goodbye to staff members that choose other paths. Both Debbie Ellis and Stacey Koster, second grade teachers, will be moving out of state to be nearer to family. They have been on the second grade team for many years and have contributed to the successes of many students. We wish them the best as they begin careers with other students who will be fortunate to be in their classrooms. Thank you both for your selfless service to Swift Creek! Barbara Pearman, 5th grade teacher, Rosemary Unger (Literacy) and Candis Burchardi, Kindergarten teacher, will also pursue other interests outside of Swift Creek, and we will sincerely miss their positive and collaborative spirits for their teams. Several TAs-- Kimberlee Rutila (3rd and 4th grade), Peggy Schlossman (Kindergarten), Molly Hoffman (Kindergarten), and Angelia Cherry (special education) will also be leaving Swift Creek as their positions end this year. We wish all members of our Swift Creek family members the very best as they follow their dreams or other paths!



**Have a Safe and
Happy Summer
Vacation!**

**See you at Meet the
Teacher on August 19!**

**The first day of school
is August 24.**

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I would like to wish a big heartfelt thank you to all of our PTA members who have given their hearts and souls to our school this year and for all their contributions to our PTA committees and events. We appreciate the work of our President Dina Goembel, Vice President Elizabeth Worthy, Treasurer Kim Partin, and Secretary Marie Dexter. Without you all, our year would not have gone as smoothly. We also thank all PTA fifth grade parents for all of their support through the years and wish you all the best as you leave our special community. The middle schools are lucky to have all of your support as you "graduate" with your children.

Swift Creek also wishes our fifth graders, the Class of 2022, good luck as they move to the various middle schools. Students--always remember your Swift Creek roots, and come and visit us. You are blessed to have the solid academic foundation and strong connections to take with you. We wish you the best and know you have bright futures ahead!

Thank you to all parents who volunteered to proctor for the EOG testing last week. With your help, we were able to complete all of the testing in a short amount of time. We will finish our Read to Achieve Test for select 3rd graders and will send scores as soon as we receive that information. In the final report card, parents will also receive the mCLASS Home Connect letter that will inform you of progress on the final benchmark.

We look forward to the final events of the year. Our Spring Fling will be held on June 3rd. For the Spring Fling event, there will be a limited number of activities that involve the use of water such as a cup relay, so please dress your children comfortably and send a towel for them to use after the event. Bathing suits are not permitted and remind your children to put on sunscreen before coming to school. The 5th grade Talent Show is slated for June 5th at 1:45 pm. Our 5th grade Graduation Ceremony is on June 8th at 9:20 am and the picnic and kickball game will be held at 12:30 pm. Parents should plan to arrive early for the ceremony as parking will be limited during carpool time.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the Meet the Teacher event on August 19th from 3 pm to 5 pm.

Class assignments will be mailed a few days prior to the event, so that you will know your teacher assignment prior to arriving. If you feel strongly that your child's learning style should be shared with me prior to making class placements, please describe your child's personality and how he or she learns best in a written statement no later than June 5th. Please do not mention teacher names or allude to specific teacher placements. **The first day of school for the 2015-2016 school year will be August 24th.**

The WCPSS Transportation Department will continue current practices for bus service for the 2015-2016 school year. Traditional calendar students must request bus service by July 17th to receive first day service if they are not currently riding a bus. If your child is currently not riding the bus, is eligible for transportation, and wants to ride the bus next year, you may request transportation for them online at www.wcpss.net.

This summer, I hope that you will continue to encourage your children to read and write, as the long summer break can impact reading achievement. Just a little reading everyday can prevent your children from losing skills they have worked so hard to attain this year. Mrs. Ramsey, media specialist, will enclose in report cards a flyer about our online subscriptions that you can access for free from home.

So as we close yet another year for you and my second as your principal, I thank you all for the support and smiles this school year. Swift Creek is a wonderful home, and it has been my pleasure to serve you. Have a great summer, stay safe, and we will see you soon!

Sincerely, Kelly Bradshaw

Reminder: Check Out Your Child Before 3:15

This a reminder that we are unable to check out students after 3:15 pm each afternoon. Please plan to arrive prior to that time if you need to check out your student for any appointments. Thank you for helping to keep our school safe and orderly!

Music Notes

We are completing a wonderful year of music making! It has been a pleasure having your child in class and I look forward to having him/her again next year.

I encourage you to keep your child involved in some type of musical activity during the summer. There are many ways to do this:

- Music Camps
- Private Lessons
- Attend live concerts with your child
- Suggest involvement for your child in church, civic and family music performances
- Listen to a variety of music at home or in the car.

"Musical Training is a more potent instrument than any other form of education, because rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul."

~Plato

I want to thank you for the support and encouragement you have provided during the year. The rewards for enhancing your child's musical experiences are endless. Have a great summer!

Gratefully, Mrs. Huddle, Music Teacher

Yearbooks Are Here!

Yearbooks will be distributed to students on Thursday, June 4. If you did not order a yearbook, extra yearbooks will be available in the office for \$12. Thank you to Mary Anne Etheridge and Ginger Yu for all their work on the yearbooks this year!

Totals from Chick-Fil-A Night on April 30

Thanks to everyone who attended Swift Creek night at the Chick-Fil-A in Crossroads Plaza. We raised \$570 for Swift Creek!

Healthy Lifestyles

The Walking Wednesday class champions will be announced Friday during morning announcements. Be sure to be on time to hear the announcement and see which class will receive the champion gold trophy!

Families, please check out the following FREE Summer Programs!

Healthy Habits Camp!

This is a FREE fun-filled week of health education activities, games, crafts and playtime. Breakfast and lunch are provided at no cost for those who qualify.

Who: Rising 1st-5th graders who qualify

When: June 15-19 or July 13-17, 8:30am-4:00pm

Where: Poe Center for Healthy Education, 224 Sunnybrook Rd., Raleigh NC 27610

How: Submit an application to the Poe Center. Inquire at info@poehealth.org or (919) 231-4006

FREE Summer Lunches!

In partnership with Wake County Public School System's Summer Food Service Program, the Poe Center provides FREE lunches during the summer months.

Who: Youth ages 18 and younger

When: Wednesdays June 17-August 5, 11am-Noon

Where: Poe Center for Healthy Education, 224 Sunnybrook Rd., Raleigh NC 27610

How: Groups of 8 or more must register 24 hours in advance. Contact L.McCallum@poehealth.org or (919) 231-4006 x399

Reflections: Let Your Imagination Fly

Reflections is gearing up for 2015-2016 school year. "Let Your Imagination Fly" will be the theme. Over the summer, you/your child can begin thinking about what this theme may mean to him/her. The student can photograph something that represents the theme. They could draw a picture to show what the theme "Let Your Imagination Fly" means to them. It is all about just being creative. A student can perform a dance that you videotape or prepare a song. [Go to <http://ncpta.org/index.php/programs/reflections-arts-program/> for more information.]

Your June Checklist

- Today:**
 - o Ask your child about the Cultural Arts Program that he or she attended at school today.
 - o Sign up to volunteer for the Spring Fling. See www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C044FA9AE28A1FF2-spring1
- June 3:** Spring Fling on the track behind the school. (Rain date is June 4.)

Important Reminders:

- There will be some water activities, so be sure your child is wearing clothes that can get a little wet.
 - Bathing suits are **not** allowed.
 - Send a small towel that your child can use to dry off.
 - Put sunscreen on your child before sending him or her to school.
- June 4:** Yearbooks distributed to students. If you didn't order a yearbook, extra copies are available in the office for \$12.

- **June 5:**
 - **1:45pm:** Attend the 5th grade Talent Show in the gym.
 - If you feel strongly that your child's learning style should be shared with Ms. Bradshaw prior to making class placements, please describe your child's personality and how he or she learns best in a written statement no later than June 5th. Please do not mention teacher names or allude to specific teacher placements.
- **June 8:** Last day of school for all students! Reports cards are sent home.

5th grade activities:

 - **9:20am:** 5th grade graduation in the gym. Please be in your seats by 9:20am. Also, please carpool because parking is limited.
 - **12:30-2:00:** 5th grade graduation picnic hosted by the SCES PTA. The picnic will be in the field behind the school and is for 5th grade students and their parents. Parents, check in at the office before joining us at the field.
- **June 12:** Last day to order School Supply Kits online. To order, go to www.shopttkits.com. Swift Creek's account number is 38021.

Summer Checklist

- **July 17:** Last day to request bus service to receive first day service if your child is not currently riding a bus. If your child is eligible for transportation, you may request transportation for them at www.wcpss.net.
- **Rising 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders:** Think about your Reflections project. The theme for 2015-2016 is "Let Your Imagination Fly". Entries can be photograph, drawings, a dance performance, and so on. For more information, see <http://ncpta.org/index.php/programs/reflections-arts-program/> for more information.
- Visit your local library! **READ, READ, READ!!!**
- Attend a local concert, sign up your child for music camp or private lessons. Listen to music in the car.
- **Stay active!** Go for a walk, a bike ride, or a swim.
- Collect Box Tops, Labels for Education labels (Campbell's soup labels), Tyson's chicken labels, and the codes for Kellogg's Family Rewards! Turn everything in when you get back to school.

Your August Checklist

- **August 1:** Harris Teeter shoppers with VIC cards. Re-link your VIC card to Swift Creek Elementary School (2126). You can do this from your account on the Harris Teeter website. Or send your VIC number to Marie Dexter at mdexter@nc.rr.com, and she'll do it for you.
- **August 19 3-5pm:** Attend Meet the Teacher at Swift Creek Elementary.
- **August 24:** First day of school for 2015-2016 school year. See you at 9:15am.