

March 12, 2019

Swift Creek Current

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

<http://swiftcreekes.wcpss.net>

919-233-4320



Register Your Incoming Kindergartner Today!

Do you (or a neighbor or friend) have an incoming kindergartner? Don't wait to get them registered! Do it today! Knowing these numbers now helps us know how many kindergarten teachers and classrooms we will need next year.

Register today online at <https://www.wcpss.net/>.

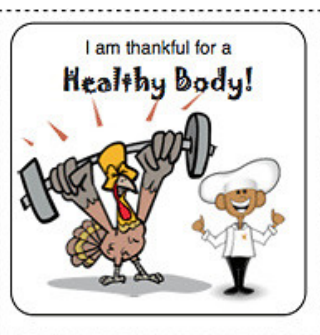
Preparing for the EOGs: April 23 at 5:30pm

The end of the year will be here before you know it and that means time for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students to take end of grade tests (EOGs). Want to learn what you as a parent can do to help your child prepare?

Attend the Family Academy seminar "Preparing for EOGs" on April 23 from 5:30-7:00. If you need child care, we ask that you RSVP as soon as possible.

National Nutrition Month Snack Challenge

March is National Nutrition Month! Come on Cougars, it's time for a healthy choice challenge. Food is fuel for the brain and body so Ms. Graves challenges staff and students to plan ahead and pack your brain fuel!



The week of March 18-22, Ms. Graves encourages you to send your child to school with a fruit or vegetable snack. Each class will keep a tally of how many students bring a fruit or vegetable, Monday through Friday.

The class who averages the most fruit/vegetable snacks for the week will receive a healthy reward from Ms. Graves and the Wellness Team!

TONIGHT 6-7:30pm

PTA meeting followed by "Transitioning to Middle School" seminar in the media center.

In This Issue

P2 Corner

Register Your Incoming Kindergartner!

National Nutrition Month Snack Challenge

Deadline for Yearbook Forms

Lego After School Program

International Night is March 21

Garden Gallop on March 16

Congratulations on our Garden Grant

Swift Creek Helping Our Community

Your March, April, and May Calendars

P2 Corner:

Mar 11-15
Love of Learning



What Does Love of Learning Mean?

You master new topics on your own or in school.

Why Does It Matter?

Developing a love of learning is highly beneficial for an individual. It means that they are intrinsically motivated to deepen their existing skills and abilities, or learn something completely new.

On a group level, love of learning is crucial. The best leaders have an insatiable desire to learn. And it's only by learning and experimenting that we continue to grow.

Mar 18-22
Forgiveness



What Does Forgiveness Mean?

You forgive those who have done wrong. You accept that people make mistakes.

Why Does It Matter?

For individuals, forgiveness has benefits that range from increased health to developing positive relationships to coming to an understanding that no one is without fault.

The ability to reconcile differences and move forward positively is a trait of any effective group. When people work together, conflict is inevitable. However, when people value each other's contribution and believe in the group's goal, they become more capable of moving past conflict toward genuinely positive behavior.

Mar 25-29
Fairness



What Does Fairness Mean?

You believe that all people have value. You approach situations with an unbiased mindset and treat everyone with respect.

Why Does It Matter?

For individuals, cultivating the character strength of fairness is correlated with highly desirable developmental outcomes. It helps people to become trustworthy friends, responsible citizens, and generally moral people. Fairness is also essential for the good of the group.

Apr 1-5
Humor



What Does Humor Mean?

You like to laugh and bring smiles to other people.

Why Does It Matter?

For individuals, humor has important health benefits, both mental and physical. Humor stretches the mind to look at things from different perspectives, keeping people mentally agile and alert.

Humor plays an important role in helping groups of people rise above difficult circumstances and boost morale. It removes us from our present difficulties by easing tension and making life more fun.

Spring Book Fair is March 18-21

It is time for another great book fair. This time, the event coincides with International Week at the Creek, so the theme is Every Family Has a Story.

Even more exciting is that we are trying a new vendor for this book fair. This time we are working with Bedford Falls, which offers a wider variety of books than the Scholastic book fair. We hope everyone finds a new book to love!

We will not be doing gift certificate this year. Instead, parents should send money with their child on their designated shopping day. Parents can also purchase books before school and at Family Night on Thursday, March 21.

Cultural Arts News: School Assembly on March 26

Silver Trout Arts will be coming to Swift Creek on Tuesday, March 26! All students will enjoy a performance including music, storytelling, puppets and poetry as they learn about All the Ways to Tell a Story! This performance is sponsored by your Swift Creek Elementary PTA and in part by a grant from the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County. Additional support is provided by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources.



Also, thank you to the United Arts Council for awarding Swift Creek with a Wheels on the Bus grant to pay for the upcoming second grade field trip to the Durham Museum of Life and Science!

Yearbook: Deadline for 5th Grade Dedications, Page Sponsors, and Business Ads is March 15

Time is running out to get your content in the yearbook. You have until March 15 to turn in these forms:

- 5th grade dedications. You can write a simple note for \$7 or a note and a picture for \$10.
- Sponsor a Page of the yearbook. Each page sponsorship is \$10.
- Place an ad in the yearbook. A great way to advertise your business. Ad sizes vary from 1/8 of a page to a full page.

Yearbook forms are available from the Swift Creek PTA
website: <http://swiftcreekeswcpssnetpta.html.weebly.com/> or contact Kristy Pickurel at swiftcreekyears.sces@gmail.com.



International Night is Thursday, March 21 5:30-7:45pm

Come celebrate Swift Creek's diversity with a night of cultural fun!

Schedule for the evening:

- 5:30-6:30 Light dinner in the cafeteria. Sample a variety of International Foods (provided by Whole Foods)
- 5:30-7:45 Book Fair open in the media center. Come grab your next great read!
- 5:30-7:30 Countries open to tourists! Remember to get your passports stamped.
- 6:30-7:15 Performances in the gym – Martial arts demo, Irish dance, Indian dance. An announcement will be made before performances begin.

Congratulations to Our Super Snippers for February!

Congratulations to Mrs. Coles' 5th grade class for submitting \$10.70 in Box Tops and Coke bottle tops in February. Each child earned a small prize and Mrs. Coles won some supplies for her classroom!

Keep collecting your Box Tops and Coke Bottle tops. The next collection day is March 29.

And the Spirit Award Goes to . . .

Congratulations to Ms. Miller's 2nd grade class for winning the Swifty Spirit Award for March. They had 58% participation on College Spirit day on Friday, March 8. They celebrated with a popcorn party and get to host Swifty Cougar for the next month!



Results from City Barbeque Night!

Thank you to everyone who attended City Barbeque night in Jan! We raised \$279.01 for Swift Creek! And a good time was had by all.

Countries Represented at International Night:

- China
- Denmark
- El Salvador
- Finland
- Guatemala
- India
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Italy
- Japan
- Jordan
- Morocco
- Slovakia
- Spain
- South Africa
- Trinidad & Tobago
- Venezuela

Are you interested in sharing your family's story? If you'd like to contribute a display for a country or culture or share a performance, contact Marie Dexter at mariedexter@gmail.com.



Last Chance: Join the Swift Creek Team at the Garden Gallop 5k on March 16

On March 16 is the **Inter-Faith Food Shuttle's annual Garden Gallop 5K!** This is the only fundraiser they have to fund their Urban Agriculture Education program (which is what helped Swift Creek get our awesome garden) at the Food Shuttle, and they would love to see our school partners (like Swift Creek) join us on this day. Partner school families can use the promo code (Urban Ag) for **25% off cost** of entry. Please help us spread the word for this event, but **please do not share the promo code outside of your school** network.

Kids 12 and under run / walk for free! Bring the whole family, which of course includes dogs.

Be part of the Swift Creek team by registering today at <http://tinyurl.com/gardengallop19>

Help Swift Creek win \$10,000!

Mrs. D'Amelio (a 4th and 5th grade teacher) has been nominated for the NC School Hero award (through NC Education Lottery). There will be 10 winners. Swift Creek Elementary AND Mrs. D'Amelio can win \$10,000 each. NO registering is required. We can vote DAILY (and it appears each device can vote daily-not person). PLEASE support Mrs. D'Amelio and Swift Creek Elementary.

Please forward this information to anyone and everyone (Facebook and Twitter too).

<https://www.ncschoolheroes.com/#nominateheroes> (takes you to Wake County teachers that have been nominated)

Lego After School Camp is Back for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades

PlayWell is offering STEM Challenge with Lego Materials for 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders on Fridays, April 5 - May 24 (No class April 19).

The cost is \$126/child for 7 sessions.

You can register at <http://play-well-registration.com/course/77932>

We Received a Grant for Our Garden!

Congratulations to the PTA's Healthy Living Committee!

Nehal Outlaw worked so hard to apply for a Whole Kids Fountain grant and Swift Creek was one of the recipients. We will receive \$2000 to spend on our garden over the next year! Look for more news soon!



Swift Creek Helping Our Community: #OtherPeopleMatter

Wake Up and Read Donations: 554 Books!

Thank you to everyone who donated books to the Wake Up and Read Book Drive. The organization was so impressed that Swift Creek collected 554 books! That's more than one book per student in our school. And that means that 50 students will be able to take home 10 books of their very own!

On the afternoon of March 16, the Swift Creek Service Club (SC2) will help the organization sort books and get them ready for distribution at the 13 most needed schools in Wake County.

Way to go, Swifties! Thanks for showing that when one of us succeeds, we all succeed.

Kids Heart Challenge Total is \$4564.00!!!

Over 100 students donated money, with a total of \$4,564.00! WOW! I (Ms. Graves) am so proud of our students for helping others and working hard to live an active lifestyle and make healthy choices.



Congratulations to Our Odyssey of the Mind Team

At the regional competition on March 2, our Swift Creek team tied for 10th in their division. These students have been working since October to create their skit for this competition. They've worked many long, hard hours, so please give these students a high-five if you get a chance.

An extra special Thank You to our spontaneous coach, Mrs. Krutsch, our AIG teacher, and Ms. Beauchamp, who spent her Saturday judging at the competition.

- Eliana Beta
- Samantha Deaton
- Sophia Dexter
- Heidi Ford
- Phillip Funak
- Colt Jackson
- Samantha Mayhew



shutterstock - 305800421

Supplies for the Art Room

Help support the arts at the Creek. Mrs. McIntyre needs these supplies:

Used Legos	Styrofoam egg cartons	Clean plastic drink bottle tops
Wooden blocks	Paper drink trays	Laundry detergent tops
Art puzzles	Sliding close gallon Ziploc bags	Plastic and paper grocery bags
Fabric and yarn	Baby wipes	Old wooden brooms
Paper towel and toilet paper tubes	Sharpie markers all sizes, all colors	Copy paper
Men's ties		

We Love You to the Moon and Back! Father Daughter Dance on Feb 22

Thank you to everyone who attended the Father Daughter Dance on Feb 22. According to the sign in sheets, we had 221 people in attendance and that doesn't include our volunteers.

Speaking of volunteers, please thank these individuals for all the time and energy they put in to creating this event. Our young ladies had a very memorable evening and we couldn't have done it without our Swift Creek community!



An Extra Special Thank You to These Businesses!

Thank you to these businesses for donating their time and energy at the Father Daughter Dance.

- **DJ Burkhalter** – Thanks donating your time to play some the great tunes. You always bring so much energy to our events! See <https://www.facebook.com/DJStephenBurkhalter/>
- **GOLD Photography** – Thank you for donating your time to take portraits! The results are stunning and so appreciated by our families! For more information, contact Jennifer Hayes, at Goldphotography10@gmail.com.

Thank you Volunteers!

ShaRhonda Smith
Tracy Campoli
Carrie Fernandez
Lindsey Jalik
Alissa Willett

Sarah Mailhot
Jennifer Hayes
Sally Earnest
Sarah Wohldmann
Jennifer Anderson

Allison Kern-Silva
Angelica Reedy
Katie Jennings
Erin Galloway
Tara & Soloman Batemon

Mother and Son Game (K)night!

Moms, SAVE THE DATE: Mark your calendars for our first ever Mother and Son Game (K)night! It will be Friday, April 26 from 6-7:30pm. Plan to bring your favorite card or board games to share! More details will be coming home soon!



Your March Calendar

- Mar 4-8:** P2 Cheering Others' Success
- Mar 8 1:15pm:** Early Release. School dismisses at 1:15pm.
- Mar 11-15:** P2 Love of Learning
- Mar 12 6:00pm:** PTA meeting and Family Academy Night: Transitioning to Middle School
- Mar 18-22:**
 - P2 Forgiveness
 - Spring Book Fair all week!
 - International Week. Here are the themes for each day:
 - Monday – Dress in the colors of your country's flag
 - Tuesday – Show and Tell. Bring a small item to share.
 - Wednesday – World Storytelling Day
 - Thursday – Dress in Traditional Clothing
 - Friday – Learn a new Dance
- Thurs, Mar 21:** International Night
- Mar 25-29:** P2 Fairness
- Mar 28:** Box Top Collection Day!
- Mar 29:** Teacher Work Day

Your April Calendar

- Apr 1-5:** P2 Humor
- Apr 8-12:** P2 Being Present and Giving Others My Attention
- Apr 9 6:30pm:** PTA meeting, Drama performance!
- Apr 15-19:** Spring Break
- Apr 22:** Teacher Work Day
- Apr 23 5:30-7:00:** Family Academy Night: Preparing for the EOGs
- Apr 22-26:** P2 Appreciation of Beauty and Excellence
- Apr 26 6-7:30pm:** Mother and Son Game (K)night!
- Apr 29-May 3:** P2 Purpose
- Apr 30:** Box Top Collection Day!

Join Us for Camp Invention, Supercharged!!!

The new Camp Invention program, Supercharged, allows campers to experience real-world problem solving and creative thinking! From robots and high-tech farms to superhero gadgets, campers will invent the future! Swift Creek ES is hosting Camp Invention from June 24 - 28. Visit invent.org/camp or call 800-968-4332 to register.

Are you interested in sponsoring a child who can't afford the Camp Invention fee? Our goal is to give 10 local disadvantaged children the Camp Invention experience, inspiring the future innovators and leaders of our community. Simply donate a minimum of \$5 at <https://bit.ly/2RrKtwo> and help us reach our goal! Thank you!

3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Parents: EOG Test Window!!!!

Please mark your calendar! EOG testing will take place beginning **May 29-June 7** for all **3rd - 5th grade students**. Testing **begins at 9:15 AM** each day and it is very important that all students are on time to school on each of these days. Please do not schedule appointments or other events that will cause students to not be at school to start the day. More information about EOG testing will come out later in the spring. Thank you for helping to ensure a smooth testing process for students and staff!