

May 19, 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 Parents,

The time is ticking by quickly and I am realizing that the 2014-2015 school year is coming to a close. I appreciate your continued efforts to maintain consistency with homework, nightly reading, focus on all school assignments, and careful attention to positive, respectful behavior. We know that there is a correlation to good work habits and academic success and there is still time to make a positive impact on achievement.

I would like to ask all families to please take moment to go to the Swift Creek website at swiftcreekes@wcpss.net and click on the parent survey link to take a short survey about our Title 1 program. We will use this information as we plan for the upcoming year. It will better help us to serve you in the future, and we appreciate your time on this matter.

I want to take a moment to thank everyone for the extra special treatment of our teachers and staff two weeks ago. It was truly amazing to see your generosity with our hard-working staff. Not only were the flowers, chocolates, and sweet notes kind, the breakfast, desserts, and duty free lunch was beyond gracious. If you could have heard the comments that I did all week—our teachers were most appreciative of your gestures! Thank you again for taking time to recognize them and for also recognizing our office staff a few weeks ago. We are so lucky to have the support of this tight knit community!

Mrs. Ramsey, our testing coordinator, has worked carefully to design our testing plan to complete the EOG testing in three days as previously communicated. **It is imperative that all students attend school those days and arrive on time, well rested for the tests.** The Common Core Assessments are rigorous and students need to exhibit stamina throughout the three days and for the duration of each test.



End of Grade Testing Dates!

- May 21: 5th grade science
- May 27: 3rd, 4th, 5th grade Language Arts
- May 28: 3rd, 4th, 5th grade Math

To help your child succeed, follow your teacher's suggestions and help your child get a good night's sleep and eat a protein filled breakfast.

All students must complete all EOG testing to be able to participate in the end of year events—Spring Fling, Graduation, and the Talent Show.

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Please ensure that your child has an opportunity for success by attending to the teacher's suggestions and by ensuring a good night's sleep and a protein filled breakfast. Mrs. Ramsey is also seeking registered volunteers for proctoring—please consider volunteering to help us maintain continuity of instruction for the rest of the school during testing. Finally, all students must complete all EOG testing to be able to participate in the end of year events—Spring Fling, Graduation, and the Talent Show. Please help us by ensuring your child is here and ready to go on May 21st (5th Grade Science) and May 27th (3-5 ELA) and May 28th (3-5 Math).

We are also currently in the midst of testing our K-5 students each day on their basic reading and comprehension skills with the mCLASS assessments. You will receive the Home Connect Letter in the last report card with the results of those assessments.

Our 5th Grade Graduation ceremony will be held on June 8th at 9:20 am. Parents should plan to arrive early, be seated by 9:20 am, and park at the Swift Creek Exchange Club beyond the school. We thank you in advance for arriving early and being aware that our carpool line will be occurring prior to this event, so parking will be difficult on campus. Beginning at 12:30 pm, the PTA will be hosting a picnic and kickball game with our 5th graders and parents that will last until approximately 2:00 pm. **In today's Tuesday folders, you will find a flyer with information on the picnic and event. Please RSVP by Friday, May 22nd if you plan to attend.** 5th grade students and parents are invited and it is crucial we receive that RSVP so that the PTA can plan lunch accordingly. We look forward to helping our families celebrate this milestone event!

Thank you for all you do to support Swift Creek. Let us know if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Kelly Bradshaw

Music Notes

Congratulations to our 5th grade students for their wonderful performance in their Guitar Concert on May 6th. We are very proud of them! Last week our Kindergarten students performed their "Year in Song" concert and did a great job. Thank you to all the parents who have come to support our student performers! This week the 4th grade classes are performing a Recorder Concert on Wednesday, May 20th at 1:20 pm in the gym. They have been playing the recorder since October and look forward to showing off their playing skills. We hope you can attend this special performance!

Thank you for supporting music in our schools and sharing your talented children with us! Stay up to date with music room new through Twitter @SwiftCreekMusic and through our website - <https://sites.google.com/a/wcpss.net/swift-creek-music/home>

Musically, Mrs. Huddle

Thank You from the Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee would like to say a special thank you to all those who donated treats and their time during Teacher Appreciation Week. The teachers had a fabulous week and we couldn't have provided lunch without the volunteers to cover the classes.

Congratulations to the Swift Creek Track Team!

Congratulations to the 2015 Swift Creek Track Team for outstanding performance at the Wake County Big 8 Track Meet. The team competed against 7 other Wake County elementary schools at Meredith College on Tuesday, May 12th. 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students practiced every Tuesday and Thursday morning starting in early March. The events included the 800 meters, 400 meters, 200 meters, 100 meters, the 4X100 meter relay, the running long jump, and the softball throw. Congratulations again for making Swift Creek proud!

William Angell	Nate Hagan	Hudson Myers
Israe Baqacem	Ruqayyah Abdul Hakim	Sam Norman
Ben Barrangou	Nora Hall	Kimber-Len Price
Carter Bass	Elijah Shelton Harris	Ania Pruchnik
Alexandra Bowman	Luke Hatala	Brandon Raleigh
Jonathan Brittain	Claire Hensley	Noah Rhodes
James Brooks	Alexis Nunez Herrera	Jacob Sanford
Noah Burkhalter	Isabelle Ho	Mikayla Smith
Tori Butler	Camryn Huddle	Sarah Smith
Mira Coles	Luke Jackson	Abigail Stuart
Christian Collado	CJ Lee	Michaela Terrell
Jose Collado	Loren Liu	Jesse Turner
NaDayzia Page Draughon	Avery Lotz	Grayson Waters
Matthew Goembel	Kalayah Manning	Jaxon Woodworth
Emma Green	Eric Morgan	

Sporting Goods Drive in May

The Student Council will be having a Sporting Goods Drive for the month of May. Gently used sporting goods can be sent into school and put in the large box in the front hall. All donations will be given to Colonial Sports at the end of the month.

Some items Colonial Sports is looking for are:

- Soccer: cleats, shin guards, soccer socks
- Flag Football: cleats
- Baseball: baseball mitts, batting gloves, rubber cleats

If you have other sports equipment to donate, we would love to give that to the sports program as well - these are just a few guidelines... any basketballs, soccer balls, or footballs that you no longer use would be a great donation as well.

Dina Goembel & Manuela Trottier, Student Council Parents

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.]



You may remember that in the fall of 2015 the Reflections theme was "The world would be a better place if . . .". If you are interested – take a look at what the North Carolina students National winners creations at <http://ncpta.org/index.php/2015/05/04/five-nc-students-win-national-pta-reflections-awards/> . Here is the Reflections Visual Arts Award of Excellence Winner by Ian Rinker of Charlotte, NC.

Your May Checklist

- May 20**
 - **1:20pm:** Attend the 4th grade recorder concert in the gym.
 - Second to last Walking Wednesday for the year! Encourage your child to finish 10 laps so he can earn another walking token before the end of the year!
- May 21:** 5th grade only - End-of-grade (EOG) testing for Science. Get plenty of rest!
- May 21 6-7pm:** Encourage incoming families to attend the Kindergarten Open House.
- May 22: 5th grade parents:** RSVP due if you plan to attend the 5th grade graduation picnic on June 8.
- May 25:** Memorial Day Holiday! No school.
- May 27:** Last Walking Wednesday of the year! Put on your walking shoes and help put your class in the lead for the most laps completed this year!
- May 27 & 28:** 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades – End-of-grade testing. May 27 is for English/Language Arts. May 28 is for Mathematics. All students will eat in their classrooms. There will be no specials either of these days.
- May 29:**
 - **8am:** Attend the Fun Run planning meeting in the media center or conference room. Help select the theme for next year's event! We need help over the summer.
 - Turn in your School Supply Kit order form! Order you kit today and pick it up at the Meet the Teacher in August! It's that simple! Questions? Hani Brooks RBrooks009@aol.com.
 - Deadline for Sporting Goods Drive for Colonial Sports. Please put your sports equipment in the giant box in the front hall.

Your June Checklist

- **June 1 7:00pm:** Last PTA meeting of the year and social at Kim Partin's house.
- **June 2:** During the afternoon, all students will attend a Cultural Arts Program.
- **June 3:** Spring Fling on the track behind the school. (Rain date is June 4.) Our students are in for a treat—the committee has worked hard to plan a wonderful experience for all students.
- **June 5:** 5th grade Talent Show. Thanks to two of our wonderful parents and four of our hardworking teachers, the 5th grade Talent Show is scheduled for June 5th in the afternoon. The exact time is TBD.
- **June 8:** Last day of school for all students!
 - **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:** Letter due to Ms. Bradshaw if you have any special needs or requests to consider for student placement for 2015-2016 school year.

This letter should describe the type of teacher only or any factors 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.

Summer Checklist

- **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!!!**
- 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.
- Have lots of fun and be ready to return to school in August!