

May 5, 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

Greetings Parents,

We are thrilled to welcome Caroline Fletcher as our new Assistant Principal. She assumed her duties this week and has jumped aboard with gusto! Ms. Fletcher comes to us from West Lake Elementary, where she served as assistant principal for two years. She also has internship experience from Lincoln Heights Elementary. She brings positivity, energy, a passion for student learning to our team. We hope that you will be able to meet her soon! Below you will find a note of introduction from Ms. Fletcher.

Student assignment strips were sent home on Friday by Mrs. Kmec. If you are not planning for your students to return to Swift Creek for the 2015-2016 school year, please return the strip with corrections as soon as possible. ***This is extremely important for our planning and hiring for the new school year, as all staffing allotments and decisions are based on student enrollment projections.***

Our testing schedule for the end of year has changed due to the testing window being extended. It is extremely important that students be present and on time for this testing. **Our 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking the Science EOG on Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. All 3-5 students will be taking the ELA EOG on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. Math EOG is scheduled for 3-5 students on Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.** Make ups will be scheduled as needed and we hope to avoid any make up sessions with 100 % attendance during those days. Please also ensure that students arrive at school before 9:15 am on those days so they can get organized before testing begins. ***Students will need to have testing completed before participating in any end of year events.***

**Proctors Needed for EOG Testing: May 21, May 27, & May 28**

Please contact Mary Alice Ramsey at [mwramsey@wcpss.net](mailto:mwramsey@wcpss.net) to help out!



## Upcoming Events

With so much going on at the end of the year, it is hard to highlight just a few of the upcoming events.

**See the last page of this newsletter for your May and June event guide!**



## In This Issue

Principal's Report

Hello from Ms. Fletcher

Update from Wake County Public Schools

Student Council Updates

Drama Club Updates

Character Education Awards  
– Good Judgment

On May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, students will eat lunch in their classrooms with teachers and there will be no specials on those two days. All teams will enjoy recess with Ms. Bradshaw and Ms. Fletcher. The cafeteria will be providing free breakfast to all third-fifth graders on May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, so please RSVP today (a form will be sent in Tuesday folders) if you want your child to eat breakfast at school those mornings.

Our fifth grade graduation ceremony will be held on June 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:20 am. Please plan to arrive early to park in the park behind our school or at the community center. Parents should be seated at 9:20 am in the gym. We will also need for families to carpool if at all possible as parking is limited. ***It is imperative that families understand that this ceremony is immediately following morning arrival and we will be unable to interrupt the flow of the carpool line for parking that morning.*** There will be a picnic event in the afternoon for families, and more information will be shared soon regarding this event from PTA and the fifth grade team. We look forward to celebrating this special time with you all!

Thanks for all you do! Sincerely, Kelly Bradshaw

## Hello from Our New Assistant Principal, Caroline Fletcher

Greetings Swift Creek Families!

My name is Caroline Fletcher and I am proud to be the new assistant principal at SCES. I am looking forward to partnering with Ms. Bradshaw and the Swift Creek community to make it the very best it can be! I spent my first week spending time in classrooms, assisting with cafeteria duty, and learning my way around the school. I can honestly say I have never met such a sweet group of students.

My background in education started when I majored in Birth-Kindergarten education at Greensboro College. Shortly after I started teaching, I earned a Master's degree in Reading from Meredith College and added elementary certification to my license. Following time teaching kindergarten and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade I was ready for a new challenge and entered the world of school leadership. I earned the NC Principal Fellows scholarship and was fortunate to attend school full time at UNC-Chapel Hill and complete a yearlong internship. Following my internship, I began working at West Lake Elementary as an assistant principal. I am now proud to join the Swift Creek cougar family and look forward to working with you to strengthen our partnership focused on student success.

Caroline Fletcher, Assistant Principal

## Update from Wake County Schools

The last District 5 Board Advisory Council for the 2014-15 school year was held Tuesday, April 21st at Washington Elementary. Bob Grant, Principal of Washington Elementary shared about the school's programs and history and stated that it was the second magnet school in the county.

Dr. Marvin Connelly, Chief of Staff and Strategic Planning for WCPSS, discussed WCPSS's 5-Year Strategic Plan. Dr. Connelly shared background about how the strategic plan was developed. The Vision statement is *All WCPSS students will be prepared to reach their full potential and lead productive lives in a complex and changing world.* The Mission statement is *WCPSS will provide a relevant and engaging education and will graduate students who are collaborative, creative, effective communicators and critical thinkers.* Dr. Connelly stated there will be substantial focus and

assessments of student ability to collaborate, be creative, communicate and think critically (4 C's). Dr. Connelly concluded his discussion of the strategic plan by sharing that WCPSS has a lot of work to do to prepare students and achieve a 95% graduation rate. The strategic plan is located at <http://www.wcpss.net/strategic-plan>.

Dr. James Martin, District 5 Board of Education Member shared that WCPSS's proposed budget should be sent to the Wake County Commissioners by May 5<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Martin indicated the proposed budget request is \$48 Million higher than last year; however only \$6.5 Million is for program expansion. Dr. Martin stated that approximately **10% of the state appropriations go to WCPSS**. Wake County has over **155,000** students. Dr. Martin concluded stating that in order for every elementary school to add one additional teacher, it would cost over \$6 Million.

The next District 5 BAC meeting will be held in the fall. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Emily McGraw, the Swift Creek Elementary School representative at [emcgraw@hotmail.com](mailto:emcgraw@hotmail.com).

## Student Placement for Next Year

If any parent feels strongly about their child's unique characteristics or needs in the next grade level, they are welcome to submit a letter to Ms. Bradshaw by June 12<sup>th</sup>. 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.

## Volunteers Needed in the Media Center

The Swift Creek Media Center is looking for volunteers each day! If you are available to come in and help~ we'll take you for as little as 1/2 hour once a week to multiple hours. It's up to you! We are working on inventory and a variety of other year-end projects. Please contact Mary Alice Ramsey at [mwramsey@wcpss.net](mailto:mwramsey@wcpss.net) to volunteer!

## Music Notes

Our May song is "Take Me Out To The Ballgame". It is considered the unofficial anthem of North American baseball, although its composers had never been to a game when they wrote it in 1908. Our May composer is John Williams. You may know his music from many famous movies -Star Wars, Indiana Jones, ET and Harry Potter, just to name a few.

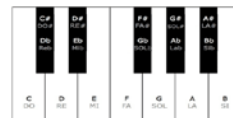
Mark your calendars-we have some wonderful grade level concerts coming up! Our fifth graders are performing a guitar concert tomorrow, Wednesday May 6<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 pm in the gym. We hope you can attend to hear some of the songs they have learned. Our kindergarten classes are performing a concert Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 am in the gym. They will be sharing all about what they have learned this year in school. Our fourth graders will perform their recorder concert on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:20 pm in the gym. This is a date change from the previous newsletter. Performance is

## Attention: After School Walkers

Please be reminded that we are unable to dismiss students as walkers during carpool line each day due to safety of all students. **We will call all registered walkers for dismissal at 4:05 pm each day and escort them to the Tryon Road gym entrance.** Please refer to the 2014-2015 Student Parent Handbook if you have questions.

## A special "Thank you" to the Barrangou family for their donation of a digital piano.

We are excited to use it in our music classroom!



an important part of our music learning and all of our student performers work hard to showcase their talents. We hope you can attend any and all of these performances to support them!

Musically, Mrs. Huddle, Music Teacher

## 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

## Healthy Lifestyles

### Cooking with Kids Winners: Adam and Phillip Funak

Congratulations to our Cooking With Kids winner for April—brothers Adam and Phillip Funak! Adam and Phillip teamed up with mom to cook Eggplant Lasagna. The duo gathered up ingredients according to mom's recipe. Adam (Grade 4) prepared a batter made of eggs, salt, milk and flour, while Phillip (Grade 1) salted eggplant slices. Adam dipped each slice of eggplant into the batter, and Phillip then covered the battered eggplant with breadcrumbs, then the boys baked the eggplant in the oven. When the eggplant was cooked, Adam and Phillip alternated layering eggplant slices, tomato sauce, lasagna noodles, pepper and cheese to fill a lasagna pan. After patiently waiting 1 hour for the lasagna to bake it in the oven, the Funaks enjoyed a yummy family meal. Way to go, Adam and Phillip!

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 5/31/15 for the month of May to [realfooddoc@gmail.com](mailto:realfooddoc@gmail.com).

## Shoe Drive Update

Special thanks to all of the Swift Creek families for the shoes that were donated for the month of April. **We filled our giant box with 245 pairs of shoes!** Way to go!

The shoes were delivered to Dorcas Thrift Shop & the Salvation Army on Thursday, April 30th.

Thank you all for your support in helping our community!  
4th & 5th Grade Swift Creek Student Council Members



Do you have healthy ideas you would like to see implemented at Swift Creek, or just want to be a part of our on-going healthy programs? Consider joining the PTA's Healthy Lifestyles Committee!  
Email Lisa Barrangou at [realfooddoc@gmail.com](mailto:realfooddoc@gmail.com).

Live.Life.Healthy

Thanks to Harris Teeter at Tryon Village for sponsoring this month's gift card!

### Walking Wednesdays: Only 1 Month Left!

There's only 1 month left for students to work toward earning tokens from Walking Wednesdays! Who will win the class trophy? Please remember to send your student in with comfortable shoes and encouragement to participate every Wednesday this month. Every cumulative 10 laps (2 miles) walked earns your student 1 token. Let's close the year out with lots of miles under our belt!

### News from Swift Creek's Drama Club

I [Mrs. Fallon] wanted to say thank you again for your support of Swift Creek's Drama Club. I love having the chance to work with the students and teach them other skills beyond a book including performance expectations and public speaking in front of a live audience. Thank you for the gift of appreciation, but most of all, thanks for sharing your children with me. A great big shout-out goes to the following Drama Club performers:

#### The Fourth Grade Cast List

Ms. Beauchamp	Miss Windsor	Mrs. D'Amelio	Mrs. Fallon
Kayla Hoana	Claire Hensley	Adam Funak	Avery Lotz
Rohan Vanga	Gabriela Mercado-	Molly Koonce	Sam Norman
Yaire Olaya-Zuniga	Santos	Gabriel Mercado-	Sunday Thomas
Lauren Prillaman	Gavin Fleury	Santos	Charlotte Jacobson
		Rosie Ryan	Gianna Goss
		Chase Williams	Jack Morgan
			Elli Sheppard
			Zander Mayhew
			David Phillips
			Deema Habib
			Grant Etheridge
			Emma Alexander

#### The Fifth Grade Cast List

Mrs. Jackson	Mr. Krauter	Ms. Pearman	Mrs. Coles
Veronika Elchaninova	David Trottier	Brooke Berning	Elias Kellum
Auria Polefka	Justia Justin	Brady Bittner	Grayson Waters
Benjamin Peeler		Kendyl Nitschke	Imoni Miller
Lucia Mercado-Santos		Kaitlin O'Rourke	Hibatoullah Mokhtari
Jordan Schiappa		Kyle Kuttrus	Matthew Goembel
		Alaysia Williams	Abigail Stuart
		Zola Cofield	Elijah Harris
		Lisey Pillay	

## Character Education Awards: Good Judgment

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

### Kindergarten

#### Mrs. Harris

Ava Goembel  
Carl Ahiawodzi  
Jaxon Huddle  
Suhey Espinoza-Barron

#### Ms. Lipe

Stella Pittman  
Adam Brockelsby

#### Mrs. Haren

Azir Jones  
Samantha Mayhew  
Brookes Kipke

#### Mrs. Robinson

Emma Dewey  
Willa Frazier  
Sequori Julien  
Tylan Reid

#### Mrs. Tanner

Deven Fisher

### First Grade

#### Mrs. Phillips

Ryan Bartley  
Ella Sterling  
Audrey Smith

Fillip Funak

#### Ms. Zardas

Sebastian Mazur  
Sydney Julien

Alondra Villarreal-Silva  
Liliana Gonzalez-Rodriguez

#### Ms. Cillian

Lincoln Fountain  
Sophia Dexter  
Hannah Moran Morales  
Laena Williamson

#### Mrs. Butler

Emilie Barrangou  
Cooper Bass  
Annalee Tanner  
Mason Hassel  
Kaden Ingram

### Second Grade

#### Mrs. Ellis

Marcus Lee  
Susan McGraw  
Kevin Nolan  
Jake Prillaman  
Whit Stuart

Charissa Treece  
Reid Veum

#### Mrs. Sedaghat

Napoleon Totten  
Addie Dewey  
Alexander Douglas  
Victoria McCohn

#### Ms. Koster

Ayanna Smith  
Donovan Montgomery  
Adriana Rodriguez  
Andrea Flores-Garcia

#### Mrs. Bernstein

Abby Sanford  
Bryan Green  
Katelyn Ragsdale

### Third Grade

#### Ms. Herrin

Eliceo-Herrera Marcelo  
Amina Seck Soudani

#### Ms. Smith

Ania Pruchnik  
Sasha Brazilier  
Anthony Rodriguez-Lopez  
Victoria Butler

#### Mrs. Barker

Charlotte Holcombe  
Kaylee Diorio  
Mahasin Abdul-Hakim  
Ben Barrangou

#### Ms. Wyrsh

Jaxon Woodworth  
Trevor Hongach  
Anas Goubar

### Fourth Grade

#### Ms. Beauchamp

Isaiah Kelly  
Konswayla Gillon  
Brandon Spaulding

#### Mrs. D'Amelio

Adam Funak  
Molly Koonce  
Rachel Thompson  
Chase Williams

#### Ms. Windsor

Sean Brooks  
Georgia King  
Carter Roberts

#### Mrs. Fallon

Alayna Arellano  
Gianna Goss  
Charlotte Jacobson  
Elli Sheppard  
Alayna Arellano  
Charlotte Jacobson  
David Phillips

### Fifth Grade

#### Mr. Krauter

Peter Bowen  
Sadeen Khatib  
Rubyann LaMontagne

#### Mrs. Coles

Temurbek Farmonov  
Nate Hagan  
Grettel Perez Lopez  
Camryn Huddle

#### Mrs. Jackson

Loren Liu  
Elijah Greene  
Alexandra Bowman  
Jordan Schiappa  
Lucia Mercado Santos

#### Mrs. Pearman

Garrett Hess  
Brenna Foley  
Mikayla Smith  
Kaitlin O'Rourke

## Your May Checklist

- May 4 – 8:** Teacher Appreciation Week. Please Thank your teacher this week!
- May 5:** As part of Teacher Appreciation Week, send in a flower for your child's teacher. Also, please help your child write a thank you note on the "I love my teacher..." page that was sent home in last week's Tuesday folder.
- May 6 3:00pm:** Attend the 5<sup>th</sup> grade guitar concert in the gym
- May 12:** The Swift Creek Track team will be competing in the Big 8 Track Meet at Meredith College. They will be competing against 7 other Wake County elementary schools. Good luck, Swifties!
- May 13 7:00pm:** PTA meeting in the media center. We need your there to vote on how to spend our remaining money for the school year!
- May 14 10:15am:** Attend Kindergarten concert "Our Year in Song" in the gym
- May 20 1:20pm:** Attend the 4<sup>th</sup> grade recorder concert in the gym.
- May 21:** 5<sup>th</sup> grade only - End-of-grade (EOG) testing for Science
- May 21 6-7pm:** Encourage incoming families to attend the Kindergarten Open House.
- May 25:** Memorial Day Holiday! No school.
- May 27 & 28:** 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> 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 30:** 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.)
- June 5:** 5<sup>th</sup> grade Talent Show
- June 8:** Last day of school for all students!
  - 9:20am:** 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduation in the gym. Please be in your seats by 9:20am. Also, please carpool because parking is limited.
  - Afternoon:** 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduation picnic
- 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.