

November 14, 2017

Swift Creek Current

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

<http://swiftcreekes.wcpss.net>

919-233-4320

Congratulations to Our Teacher of the Year!

Congratulations to Ms. Steinberg, 2nd grade teacher, for being selected as Swift Creek's teacher of the year. Ms. Steinberg is an incredible teacher in the classroom, and is she a big contributor to the school at large. She has helped many teachers get the supplies they need through DonorsChoose.org projects. She also is very creative and has lots of innovative ideas!

Please congratulate Ms. Steinberg in being selected for this honor from her peers! Ms. Steinberg will be recognized at the countywide banquet in May.

What is STEM Night?

For the first time, Swift Creek will be hosting a STEM Night where students can engage in fun activities related to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

There will be a variety of activities for all grade levels. All the activities are hands-on and most even let you take the supplies home!

They will be exploring the chemistry of slime, the physics of sound, the magic of mathematics, plus lots of other fun activities.

Return a completed STEM Night passport to earn a prize and be entered into a drawing to win a Rollercoaster Challenge game!

A special Thank You to Chris Miller and all members of the PTA STEM committee for making this event possible!



PTA Meeting Today at 6:30 in the Cafeteria!

Part of our discussion will be on how to allocate the additional money we raised in the Fun Run! We'd love to hear from you.

Book Fair Family Night and STEM Night Is Thursday!

This week is Book Fair week. Join us on Thursday from 5:30-8:00 as we celebrate Family Night at the Book Fair and STEM night.

Here is the schedule:

- 5:30pm – Book Fair opens. Food available in the cafeteria. STEM activities begin.
- 7:00 – Cafeteria closes.
- 7:30 – STEM activities end.
- 8:00 – Book Fair closes.

In This Issue

P2 Corner

Be a Positive Charge

Reflections Winners

Thank You Fun Run Sponsors

P2 (The Positivity Project) Corner:

During the month of November and December, students will be learning about these character strengths.

Nov 13-24



Gratitude

You are aware of and thankful for good things that happen.

Nov 27-Dec 1



Humility/Modesty

You do not seek the spotlight. You let your actions speak for themselves.

Dec 4-8



Kindness

You are generous to others and you are never too busy to help out. You enjoy doing good deeds for other people.

Dec 11 – 22



Self-Control

You have the ability to control your emotions and behaviors. You think before you act.

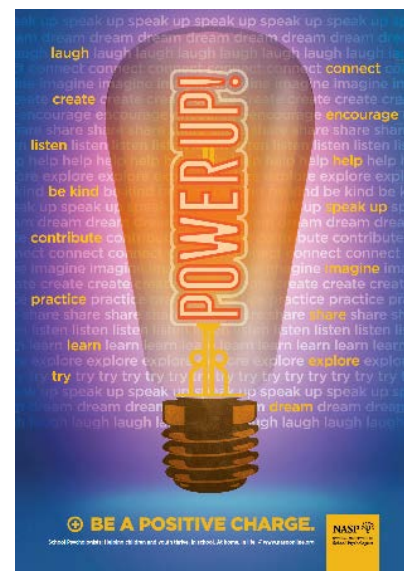
National School Psychology Awareness Week

“Power Up! Be a Positive Charge!”

My name is Kristen Lewis, and I am Swift Creek’s school psychologist.

School psychologists are members of school staff that support students’ ability to learn and teachers’ ability to teach. School psychologists apply expertise in mental health, learning, and behavior to help children and youth succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. We provide direct support and interventions to students, such as individualized learning and behavioral assessments to identify students’ strengths and needs, academic and behavioral interventions, counseling, and social skills training. We also consult with teachers, families, and other educators to improve support strategies and school-wide practices and policies. We are in a unique position to ensure students success every day, including both small and bigger accomplishments.

November 13-17 is National School Psychology Awareness Week. This year’s theme is “Power Up! Be a Positive Charge.” Did you know that taking a small positive action can create a momentum for positive change? The idea is that a small spark—a new skill, a piece of knowledge, an extra effort, a kind gesture—can create the connections necessary for students to develop critical academic and social-emotional skills. Sparks can include action words such as dream, laugh, connect, imagine, create, encourage, share, listen, help, explore, try, and speak up. Students can be both the recipients and conduits of a positive charge that generates personal achievement, growth and resilience, and sense of belonging and community.



Wow! This theme really meshes well with the Positivity Project and the mindset that other people matter! I look forward to working together as we encourage our children, whether at home or at school, to be a POSITIVE CHARGE!

WOW! We raised \$21,000!

What an amazing fundraising drive we've had! For the first time in several years, we met our fundraising goal and then we EXCEEDED it. In total, we raised \$21,000! That's incredible!

At the Nov 14 PTA meeting, we will be discussing how to spend the additional funds. If you cannot make the Nov 14 meeting but have suggestions, please contact Marie Dexter at mariecddexter@gmail.com. Please be as specific as possible. For example, instead of technology, maybe say that you'd like to see an additional computer in each classroom. We can't promise that we can fund every idea, but we'd like to hear from you!

So many people to thank for this incredible achievement:

- Thank you to all the families who donated money and their time to making the Fun Run a success!
- Thank you to our patient staff as we worked out the Fun Run schedule, for handing out flyers every week, and for your constant support.
- And THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to Kim Partin, the chair of the Fun Run. She organized this entire event – from the information packets to the flyers to the prizes to the money collecting. We couldn't have done it without you.

We'd also like to thank our Gold, Silver, and Bronze Sponsors.

Gold (\$200+)

The Nolan Family
 The Ford Family
 The Dexter family
 The Prillaman Family
 The Heo family
 The Veum family
 The Hanes and Polich Family
 Daniel and Aimee Byrum
 Lynette and Chris Harris
 Fright Nights – Haunted House
 + 3 anonymous donors

Silver (\$150)

Jason Robinson
 + 4 anonymous donors

Bronze (\$100)

Leslie Aycock
 Beth Englert – Better Homes and
 Gardens Go Realty
 Carolina Cabinet Specialists
 Family of Francis Jennings
 Mike and Shannon Deaton
 Bob Douglas
 The Douglas Family
 Shawna VandenHeuvel
 + 10 anonymous donors

Cultural Arts : Writer in Residence



Swift Creek would like to welcome Michael Beadle as our writer-in-residence for the week of November 13-17. He will be working with the fourth grade each day that week! In this residency, students will learn how sound and rhythm work in poetry -- from basic rhymes and alliteration to slant rhymes and rhyme schemes that singers, freestyle rappers, and songwriters use.

Michael Beadle is an award-winning poet, author, historian and teaching artist with a passion for language, writing and literature. He has taught in the classroom since 1999 and performed poetry professionally since 1998. His focus in teaching is to encourage, inspire and challenge writers to express themselves and become more confident with writing so they can continue to be lifelong learners and creative problem solvers.

This program is supported 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.

Cougar Chorus is Looking for Fabric

In preparation for the spring musical "Go West" chorus members are in need of extra fabric. If you have any extra clean fabric, please drop them off at the front desk or the music room.

If you have questions, please contact Ms. Sutton at jsutton3@wcpss.net.

Congratulations to Our Reflections Winners!

Reflections is a national arts program (sponsored by the PTA) that celebrates art, literature, photography, music, and dance. At Swift Creek, this program is open to 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. This year's theme is "Within Reach!" .

Here are the results from last week's judging. All of these student projects will move on to the county competition. We can't wait to hear how our Swifties do!

Photography:

1st place: "Beauty Within Reach" by Meredith Myers

2nd place: "Where Are the Girls?" by Sophia Dexter

3rd place : "Sun Once Again" by Ava Sheppard

Visual Arts 2D:

1st place: "Almost There" by Zoe Pacio

2nd place: "Dream Believe Achieve" by Andrea Flores G.

3rd place : "Cuties Make Me Happy" by Samantha Deaton

Visual Arts 3D:

1st place: "Nature's Beauty" by Ava Langat

2nd place : "Circle of Life" by Laila Powell

3rd place : "Reaching Goals with Basketball" by Chay Smith

Your November Calendar

- **Nov 13-17:**
 - National School Psychology Awareness week.
 - Book Fair! Family Night on Nov 16.
 - Cultural Arts workshop for 4th grade. Writer-in-residence, Michael Beadle, will be with the kids all week!
- **Nov 17:** College Spirit Day! Wear your favorite school's colors!
- **Nov 21** 1:15pm: Early Release. School dismisses at 1:15pm.
- **Nov 22-24:** Thanksgiving holiday! No school.
- **Nov 27:** Return to school from holiday. Class starts at 9:15.

AIG Nomination Window

AIG nominations are accepted at any time. Simply send a note to Mrs. Krutsch (skrutsch@wcpss.net). However, to be considered for testing this school year, nominations must be received by January 5, 2018.

Your December Calendar

- **Dec 1:** School Spirit Day!
- **Dec 12 6:30pm:** PTA meeting and Cougar Chorus in the media center
- **Dec 15:** College Spirit Day!
- **Dec 19:** Winter Glow Dance party!
- **Dec 21** 1:15pm: Early Release
- **Dec 22-Jan 1:** Winter Break

It's a Win – Win!

There are easy ways for you to order healthy snacks for classroom celebrations! You can order healthy snacks (for celebrations such as birthdays) through the cafeteria! And yes, they have cookies and cupcakes on the list!

For more information and form to complete, see <http://swiftcreekeswcpssnetptahtml.weebly.com/healthy-lifestyles.html>

Amazon has also created [The Healthier Generation Store with Amazon Business](http://tinyurl.com/scesHealthyFood). (Short URL: <http://tinyurl.com/scesHealthyFood>) Make sure to use your Swift Creek Amazon smile account. Then you are keeping our kids healthy while supporting our school as well!

