

November 5, 2019

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

Wow! We are already one quarter of the way through this school year. What a great year this has been already! Students are ROARing, Positivity is soaring, and we are learning new things every day.

We've had some great WatchDOG dads so far. Gentlemen, have you signed up to spend a day at Swift Creek yet? Keep coming - our students love it when you are here.

One of our favorite nights is coming up this month. STEM Night coincides with the Book Fair on November 14. It is going to be a great night of learning and fun.

Finally our first Celebration of Brilliance for this year is coming up on November 20. Watching students and staff members celebrate the achievements and strengths of each other will make your day. Plan now to attend.

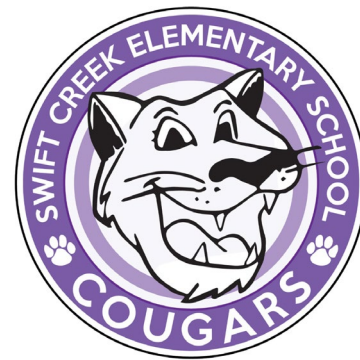
Thank you for your continued support for Swift Creek Elementary.

Darrell Propst, Principal
Swift Creek Elementary School

Important Reminder: Sign In at the Front Office

When you arrive at school, your first stop should be the front office to sign in. You need to sign in even if you are dropping off their child in his or her classroom or just visiting for a few minutes.

Signing in is Wake County policy and is for the safety of the students and for your safety as well.
Thanks!



Registration for 2020-21 School Year is Now Open!

Do you have an incoming Swifty next year? Did you know that you can register them for school NOW and online?

For more information, see
<https://tinyurl.com/wcpssEnroll>

In This Issue

Please Sign In

Book Fair and STEM Night

Post from the PTA President

The Positivity Project (P2) Corner

Congratulations to Our Artists!

Cultural Arts News

Have You Joined the ReadVolution?

Advocacy: Did You Know?

Camp Invention Will Be Back!

Your November and December calendars

The Positivity Project(P2) Corner:

Nov 3-9
Bravery



What Does Bravery Mean?

You act with mental, moral, or physical strength even when you know things are difficult or scary.

Why Does It Matter?

Overcoming fears is critically important in individual development, as it allows the person to do more and become more. A person can be brave every single day. On a group level, bravery is inspiring and contagious. Witnessing an individual's brave act – whether a soldier in battle or standing up for a bullied student – is a form of leadership and often encourages others to take action.

Nov 12-20
Gratitude



What Does Gratitude Mean?

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

Why Does It Matter?

Out of all 24 character strengths, gratitude is the single best predictor of individual well-being. It is correlated with increased energy, empathy, happiness and optimism. And, the great thing about gratitude is that it can be intentionally cultivated. Numerous studies have concluded that gratitude is like a muscle. The more you practice it, the stronger it gets – and the more you're able to reap its benefits.

Nov 26-30
Knowing My Words
and Actions Affect
Others



This week, students will learn about another component of the Other People Matter mindset – Knowing my words and actions affect others.

Dec 3-7
Kindness



What Does Kindness Mean?

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

Why Does It Matter?

For individuals, kindness is correlated with desirable developmental outcomes. It is related to other-oriented emotions, like empathy (the ability to experience the emotional state of another person) and sympathy (the tender emotion of concern for another's difficulty). On a group level, kindness is very important. In addition to empathy and sympathy, the character strength of kindness is indicative of an individual's moral reasoning capacity and level of social responsibility. That means people who develop kindness possess a strong personal ethical responsibility to care for other people.

Post from the PTA President

You may have heard the phrase, "Laughter is the best medicine". The implication is that in general, laughter is healthy for the mind and the body. Did you know, young children at the toddler/preschool stage laugh somewhere between 100 to 400 times each day while adults only laugh 10 to 25 times a day?!? A possible conclusion may be that we get too serious as we age, but that doesn't have to be the case. As the holiday season is approaching, and various plans and activities can be stressful, let's be intentional and take time each day to find joy and laughter during our daily tasks and share that with our children. And, if you can't find something on your own, just find a toddler and laugh along with them!

Please feel free to contact me at tmbatemon@yahoo.com with any questions and suggestions. Your input and involvement are always welcome!

Warmly, Tara M. Batemon Swift Creek ES PTA President

Advocacy: Did You Know?

Did you know that the National PTA is the nation's oldest and largest child advocacy association? Operating for over 120 years, the National PTA advocates on Capitol Hill for every child with one voice. Some of the items on their legislative checklist reflect what we do at Swift Creek, such as embed parent and family engagement into education, child nutrition, child safety and better learning environment for special education. As part of the Swift Creek PTA, you are also part of our advocacy committee!

Do you have advocacy questions? Please contact Lisa Kropliak.

Application Period for Magnet and Year-Round Schools is Open

Are you exploring middle school options for next year? Many magnet schools are having Open House and Tours this fall. For more information about how to apply to a magnet school, see the application process at <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/189>

Congratulations to our October Super Snippers!

Congratulations to Mrs. Phillips' first grade class for turning in \$22.00 worth of Box Tops this month! Swift Creek earned \$130.00 this fall through the Box Tops program.

Please continue clipping and turning in any Box Tops that you find. However, the Box Top program is going digital. You can help the Creek earn money by uploading a picture of your receipts. For more information, see <https://www.boxtops4education.com/>.



Get Involved: Ways You Can Help at the Creek!

Donate Items: Teacher Snack Cart

Sarah Wohldmann, our Hospitality Chair, will be visiting the staff on Friday, Nov 15 with the Teacher Snack Cart.

To donate items, sign up at
<https://tinyurl.com/scesCart19>

Help Us on our Fall Work Day

Help Clean up around the front of the school: Sign up at
<https://tinyurl.com/FallWorkDayNov16>

Contribute to a DonorsChoose Projects!

DonorsChoose.org is a resource that our teachers can use to fund needed supplies and projects for their classrooms.

You can learn more about current projects at
<http://swiftcreekeswcpssnetptahtml.weebly.com/teacher-projects.html>

Or go to DonorsChoose.org and search for Swift Creek Elementary School in Raleigh, NC.

We currently have a Book Bin project for 4th graders!

Thank you from Mrs. Hizer to everyone who recently donated to her project for 30 sets of noise-cancelling headphones. This purchase allows all our students to learn in comfort and participate in exciting school assemblies!

Dads: Be a Watch Dog!

Thank you to the dads who have been Watch Dogs so far this year! We'd love to get YOU in our school.

If you would like the opportunity to make a lasting memory with your child and a positive impact on the Swift Creek community, please follow the link below (or e-mail me directly) and pick a day that fits your schedule.

I realize an entire day sounds like a large commitment, but it moves quickly and the impact you make is invaluable.

<https://tinyurl.com/scesDOGS1920>

Sam Allen
sfallenprc@gmail.com
sfallen@ncsu.edu



Book Fair Next Week!

Next week (Nov 12-15) is our Scholastic (Fall) Book Fair! We need volunteers to help with preview and shopping days.

Sign Up at <https://tinyurl.com/scesBooks19>

Tuesday (Preview Day)

9:30-10:00 Fallon
 10:00-10:30 D'Amelio
 10:30-11:00 Beauchamp
 11:00-11:30 Miller
 12:30-1:00 Kress
 1:30-2:00 Coles
 2:30-3:00 Hanna
 3:00-3:30 L. Smith

Thursday (Shopping)

9:30-10:00 Fallon
 10:00-10:30 D'Amelio
 10:30-11:00 Beauchamp
 11:00-11:30 McKeon
 1:30-2:00 Coles
 2:00-2:30 Zardas
 2:30-3:00 Hanna
 3:00-3:30 L. Smith

5:30-7:45 Family Night!

Wednesday (Preview Day)

9:30-10:00 McKeon
 10:00-10:30 Phillips
 10:30-11:00 Pearson
 11:00-11:30 Sedaghat
 12:30-1:00 Cillian
 2:30-3:00 Kuhn
 3:00-3:30 Michaud

Friday (Shopping)

9:30-10:00 Michaud
 10:00-10:30 Phillips
 10:30-11:00 Pearson
 11:00-11:30 Miller
 11:30-12:00 Kuhn
 12:30-1:00 Kress
 1:00-1:30 Sedaghat
 1:30-2:00 Cillian
 2:00-2:30 Boyd
 2:30-3:00 Lipe
 3:00-3:30 King

Family Night and STEM Night: Thursday, Nov 14 5:30-7:45pm

Join us for Family Night at the Book Fair and STEM Night. Here is the schedule for the evening:

- 5:30-6:30pm Pizza in the cafeteria (while supplies last)
- 5:30-7:30pm STEM Experiments in classrooms throughout the school. We have 10 new experiments this year and with some of them you can win prizes!
- 5:30-7:45pm Book Fair is open.
- 7:45pm Time to go home and get some rest! We have school tomorrow!

Original Works Orders Due Tues, Nov 12

This year Swift Creek is partnering with Original Works to turn students' artwork into usable goods like tote bags, magnets, aprons, and more. Mrs. McIntyre and her students have been working hard on their creations!

Artwork and order forms will be heading home with your students next week (the week of 11/4) and will be due back to school by 11/12.

Products will be delivered in time for the holidays. Any questions can be directed to Laura Monaghan at lauramonaghan812@gmail.com

Cultural Arts News!



Swift Creek will welcome Didgeridoo Down Under on Wednesday, November 6! The Didgeridoo Down

Under Show is a unique fusion of Australian music, culture, art, science, comedy, character building,

anti-bullying and audience participation. Students will hear music from two performers who have more than 20 years experience making and playing didgeridoos. Grades K-2 will see the performance at 1:20 and grades 3-5 will attend at 2:30. This will be a fun and entertaining afternoon!

These cultural arts events are provided by your Swift Creek PTA and are 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.

What Is a Class Compliment?

Class compliments are given by a staff member who is not the student's homeroom teacher. Classes give the class compliment when they exhibit ROAR behavior. Specialists (music, art, PE, media) will reward classes with a compliment at the end of every special if the class has met ROAR expectations during that time.

Every grade level sets goals for when special rewards or parties (such as camp out day, PJ day) are received. The individual class selects the reward or party.

Paw posters are displayed on each classroom door.



Number of Compliments	Award
10	Paw Poster (placed outside classroom door)
40, 70, 100	A Cougar Paw is added to the poster
130, 160, 190	A jewel is added

Congratulations to these Artists!

Congratulations to these Swifties who recently had their art displayed at the North Carolina State Fair.

- Savannah Bailey
- Lizzie Boyd
- Ailani Rodriguez-Ventura
- Michael Roland
- Brooklyn Wade
- Tanner Wohldmann

Supplies Needed for the Art Room:

Mrs. McIntyre is collecting:

- dried paint brushes
- tissue paper
- mac & cheese cups
- food storage containers
- clear lids
- paper drink trays
- paper tubes
- cool whip containers with lids
- CDs/DVDs
- contact lens containers
- baby wipe boxes
- wire twist ties
- bottle tops
- acorn caps

Send these items to school with your child and label them Art Supplies. Please help Mrs. McIntyre and our Swifties create some outstanding art projects!

AIG Nomination Window is Open

4th and 5th grade parents: If you wish to nominate your child for AIG testing during the first semester, you must send a letter (paper or email) to Mrs. Krutsch (skrutsch@wcpss.net) by January 24,

Have You Joined the ReadVolution?

At last count, Swift Creek was at 1800 books of our 2020 goal! We've also had 36 students read for over 800 minutes and qualify for 2 complimentary tickets to a Carolina Hurricanes game.



You can help our school reach its 2020 goal by logging your child's reading time in the ReadVolution website. The deadline for logging hours is Dec 6.

You can log your child's hours with these easy steps:

1. Open <http://wakeid.wcpss.net>.
2. Click Select User Type.
3. Enter your child's WakeID.

Update: Having trouble figuring out your child's ID? It is the first initial of their first name, first initial of their middle name, and then their last name. For example, abdexter. If you still cannot log in, there might be multiple children in Wake County with the same user ID, so try adding a number. For example, abdexter2 or abdexter3.

4. Click Continue to Log In.
5. Enter your WakeID Password.
6. Click Continue to Log In.
7. Click the hurricanes logo.

30 Days of Planks and Thanks!

Check out Ms. Graves' latest monthly workout calendar in your Tuesday folder! You and your family can get fit together and give thanks!

The calendar is also available online at <https://tinyurl.com/scesPlanks>

Coming Attractions!

Here is a sneak peek at a few exciting events coming soon! Mark Your Calendars!

Winter Glow Dance: Thursday, Dec 19

Be sure your child is at school on Thursday, Dec 19 for the annual Winter Glow Dance. This fun-activity is sponsored by the school's PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) team. Starting after the Thanksgiving holiday, students earn ROAR coupons to attend the dance!

Look for more information coming soon!



Camp Invention Will Elevate Your Summer to a New Heights: June 22 – June 26

Camp Invention® is a nationally acclaimed summer program where STEM concepts come to life. Led by local teachers, this program has tapped into kids' natural curiosity since 1990, giving them the opportunity to become innovators through teamwork and immersive, hands-on creative problem-solving.

Mrs. Monica Coles, 5th grade teacher, has directed the camp for the past few years. Because of her work and the work of several other Swifty staff members, this camp has been an AWESOME experience for our students.

Registration for this year's camp is already open. Register today at <https://tinyurl.com/scesCamp2020>

McTeachers' Night: Thursday, Dec 5 from 5-8pm

Join us for another Swift Creek family event! On Thursday, Dec 5 from 5-8pm, the McDonalds on Walnut Street will donate 20% of sales (both dine in and drive thru) to Swift Creek! Plus, you get a chance to visit with your favorite teachers outside of the classroom!

Tell your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers . . . the more, the merrier. No flyer needed!



Your November Calendar

- **Nov 4-8:** P2 Bravery
- **Nov 7:** Make Up Picture Day
- **Nov 11:** Veteran's Day! No school.
- **Nov 11 – 15:** P2 Knowing how my words and actions affect others
- **Nov 11-15:** Fall Book Fair
- **Nov 12:** Original Works Order Forms due. If you have questions Laura Monaghan at lauramonaghan812@gmail.com
- **Nov 14:** Family Night at the Book Fair and STEM Night
- **Nov 16 9-11am:** Landscaping Work Day!
- **Nov 17-26:** P2 Gratitude
- **Nov 20:** Celebration of Brilliance. If your child is being recognized, you will receive an invitation in your Tuesday folder. Don't worry though! We have 2 more celebrations this year and all students will be recognized!
- **Nov 27 – 29:** Thanksgiving Holiday

Your December Calendar

- **Dec 2 – 6:** P2 Kindness
- **Dec 5 5-8pm:** McTeacher's Night at the McDonalds on Walnut Street
- **Dec 6:** Spirit Day! Wear your school colors! Which class will win the Swifty Spirit Award this month?
- **Dec 9 – 13:** P2 Humility
- **Dec 16-20:** P2 Self Control
- **Dec 19:** Winter Glow Dance. More details coming home soon!
- **Dec 20:** Regular School Day!
- **Dec 23 – Jan 3:** Winter Break

The Cougar Counter is Open on Wednesdays!

The Cougar Counter is our school store and is open from 8:45am – 9:10am in the front lobby. Most items range from .25 to .50 cents. Items available include pencils, pens, highlighters, and smelly erasers.

If you have questions about the Cougar Counter, contact Helen Bass at helenbass@gmail.com.

Landscaping Work Day, Nov 16 9-11am

If you enjoy the outdoors and yard work - we need YOU! Consider being a part of the SCES Landscaping Committee. Be a part of our team and share your ideas. Together we can keep our school looking great!

Sign up at
<https://tinyurl.com/FallWorkDayNov16>

We will concentrate on the area of the school sign/road and front of the school:

- pruning
- weeding
- yard waste removal

DON'T FORGET the wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels, clippers & trimmers.
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

If you have questions, contact Landscaping Chair, Tracey McCloud at (919) 500-9753 (call or text) or email at mccloud1228@yahoo.com

Spirit Days!

Whose got spirit? WE DO! On the following days, wear your Swift spirit wear or school colors (purple and white). The class with the most participant will be our Swifty Spirit Award winners for the month!

- Dec 6
- Jan 10
- Feb 7
- March 6
- April 3
- May 8
- June 5