



Swift River Current

Newsletter of Swift River School
Serving the communities of New Salem and Wendell
www.swiftschool.org

Volume 32, Issue 1

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Important Dates

Friday, April 1: Family-Teacher Conferences (1:10 PM Dismissal)
Thursday, April 7: School Committee Meeting (Virtual)
Friday, April 8: Candy Bar Bingo (5:00-7:00 PM)
Monday, April 11-Friday, April 15: Grade 6 Trip to Nature's Classroom
Monday, April 18-Friday, April 22: Spring Recess (No School)
Thursday, May 5: School Committee Meeting (Virtual)
Thursday, May 26: Grades 1 and 5 Field Trip to the Ecotarium
Friday, May 27: Mahar Transition Meetings for Special Education (In-Person and Virtual)
Monday, May 30: Memorial Day Observance (No School)
Thursday, June 2: School Committee Meeting (Virtual)
Saturday, June 4: Wendell Town Meeting at 10:00 AM
Thursday, June 9: Grades 3 and 4 Field Trip to the NE Aquarium
Monday, June 20: Juneteenth Observance (No School)

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Families,

With the cold temperatures this week, we're still waiting for spring to really arrive in New England! I'm very much looking forward to warmer weather and more sun, especially since the days are getting longer. Warmer days will also mean that we will be able to enjoy lunch outside and participate in more outdoor school-wide activities. We are excited to hopefully start hosting outdoor Community Sing again soon, so be on the lookout for an invitation to join us!

As you may have already heard, we have seen a spike in our covid numbers over the last two weeks. We continue to perform pooled testing and rapid testing on students who have been signed up for in-school testing. With these recent upticks, we are highly recommending that students wear masks in the classrooms and on school buses.

To be more environmentally conscious, we are moving away from providing small water bottles for students. Instead, we will be filling cups using gallon-sized jugs of water. We strongly encourage families to please send students in with reusable water bottles from home. We will also use the gallon jugs to refill students' personal water bottles as needed.

MCAS testing is now underway at Swift River and our students are working hard. Please keep in mind that

students will perform their best after a good night's sleep and a wholesome breakfast. Students in Grades 3-6 will be periodically testing from now through May 11. Make-up testing will extend through May 20 for students who miss testing sessions.

To streamline arrival and dismissal, we now ask that families consider putting their students on school buses whenever possible. We've noticed that arrival time has slowed recently, and we are eager to have students start the learning day as quickly and efficiently as possible, which is best achieved through bus transportation. Of course, we understand that some families may still opt to use personal vehicles, and while that will always be acceptable, we do hope to see more students riding school buses again. Please contact the office to make any changes to students' busing plans.

We have a new staff member joining us in the office! Jennifer Fay Smith left her position earlier this month. As of this week, our new Assistant Secretary is Guinevere Skellie. Guin will be resuming preschool and EF billing, but there is some catching up for her to get through. Please be patient as she gets these systems underway again, and be on the lookout for bills to come out soon. We thank everyone in advance for your prompt attention to making these payments.

Lastly, thank you to T.E.A.M. SRS for their contribution of sandwiches from the New Salem General Store for last Wednesday's long conference day. In the past, T.E.A.M. SRS always used to host Dinner Angels on this day, so we are very grateful to them for continuing to make every effort to support our staff with a meal while so many of them stay at school past dinner time. We are so fortunate to have such an actively involved PTCA, and to have all your support of their cause.

Fondly,
Kelley

Erving School Union #28 assures that all programs, activities, and employment opportunities are offered without regard to race, color, gender, gender identity, age, creed, homelessness, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, and pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

These announcements and events are not school-sponsored.



Candy Bingo Nights

Eating candy is always fun, but eating bingo candy, what could be better than that? Join us for some fun bingo playing and see who leaves as candy champion. Please arrive with some candy donations so the candy selection is that much more exciting! And when you shout "BINGO!" you'll be able to pick any candy you want, you've earned it!

FIRST CARD IS \$5, ADDITIONAL CARDS ARE \$1

Friday,
April 8th
5pm - 7pm



Pizza will be
available for \$2
per slice.

Swift River School 201 Wendell Road, New Salem, MA 01355

TEAM SRS



\$10 / ticket

SUNDAY

APRIL 10th, 2022

Order Form

Get your tickets now! Only 100 tickets will be sold for a chance to grab as many groceries as you can in 2 minutes at our local Hannaford! Fill out the form below and send it in with the payment today! Drawing will be held on Friday, April 8th, 2022 during Community Sing. You do not need to be present to win.

Please make checks payable to Swift River PTCA.

We will also offer online order and payment form - details coming soon!

Thank you for supporting TEAM SRS!

TEAM SRS



Name: _____

Phone: _____

Number of tickets: _____ x \$10

Amount enclosed: _____



Union #28 Community Network for Children

CNC Programs

APRIL 2022



REGISTRATION LINK! <https://bitly.co/94V1>

CNC Programs are currently in-person! Register to join us. Times and locations are available through the registration link. Please contact CNC if you have any questions, CNC 413-422-0170 call/text or budine@erving.com



QR Code to REGISTER

WEEKLY PROGRAMS



- **Tales & Tunes on MONDAYS with Katie at 10:00am at the Shutesbury Town Hall**
April 4, 11, 25
Supported in collaboration with the M.N. Spear Memorial Library.
- **Tales & Tunes on TUESDAYS with Katie at 10:00am at the New Salem Library**
April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24
Supported in collaboration with the New Salem Library.
- **Tales & Tunes on Wednesdays with Heleen at 10:30am at the Leverett Library**
April 6, 13, 27
- **Story Time with Julie on FRIDAYS at 10:00am at the Shutesbury Town Hall**
April 1, 8, 15, 29
Brought to you by the Friends of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library
- **Weekly StoryWalks: Erving Public Library and Leverett Library**
- **New Session of Ready Rosie**
Begins the week of April 5th. Watch your email box for an invite if your child is 3-4 years of age and lives in Erving, Leveret, New Salem, Shutesbury or Wendell.



OTHER PROGRAMS: Registration Required

- **Parent Chat "After the kids are in bed"** on April 12th online at 8:30pm
- ***Earth Day Art with Emily Neuburger** on April 24th at 10:00am at Swift River School
- ***Families in Nature, Wednesday, April 27th at 10:00am with the Hitchcock Center "Root Children" in Erving**
- **Save the date! Saturday, May 21, OPEN HOUSE at the CNC Children's Closet 10-1pm**



The Union #28 Community Network for Children program is funded by the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE) grant awarded to the Union #28 Schools by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care, and donations from the Community. *These programs are funded in part by Local Cultural Councils in New Salem and Erving, programs of the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

