

From the Principal

Thanks to all the families who participated in International Night. The evening was full of opportunities to learn about other countries in many different ways. The food and displays were amazing! It was wonderful to see so many of our students tasting the foods as well as playing a variety of musical instruments.

Jonathan Davis

DATES TO REMEMBER

Apr. 16 th	Report Cards (and Monday folders) sent home
Apr. 21 st -23 rd	2 nd grade testing
Apr. 23 rd	Title I Math Night and 3 rd grade Parent Night 6:00 - 7:00 PM
Apr. 26 th	Ready at Five Learning Party 9:30-11:00 AM Science Explosion 11:00-Noon
Apr. 28 th	Science MSA's begin SIT Meeting @ 3:20 PM
May 1 st	Swansfield Night of Excellence and Science Fair 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Spotlight Winners: Apr. 4th: K – T’Kai A., 1st – Emilio L., 2nd – Gavin T., 3rd – Justin N., 4th – DaKwan L., 5th – Naeema A.; Apr. 11th: K – Stephanie L., 1st – Katy R., 2nd – Jonathan D., 3rd – Nina G., 4th – Aiden S., 5th – Ian M.

Earth Day: Help Frisky’s Wildlife and Primate Sanctuary. The sanctuary helps injured, abandoned and abused animals. During the week of April 20th there will be containers in the teams for collection of small change donations. If you would prefer to donate goods, the shelter could use soap; paper towels; food for hamsters, birds, rabbits; rubber gloves; disinfecting wipes; pet dishes, etc.

Swansfield Night of Excellence: Please plan on joining us on the evening of May 1st to celebrate the work and achievements of all of our students in areas from Science Fair Projects to Grade Level Projects, to Curriculum Extension Demonstrations to Musical Performances to Artwork Displays to GT Seminar Demonstrations and much more!

SECAC Nominations: The Special Education Community Advisory Committee is requesting nominations to recognize staff members who have enhanced your child’s educational experience at their annual event on Tuesday, April 29th. Nominations are to include name, staff position, school or bus company, as well as your name, phone # and address/email address. E-mail submissions are preferred: kcmeissner@yahoo.com

Get Active Howard County at Swansfield? It started Monday, April 14...students, families, and staff can get a log from the rack outside of the office or from the PE teachers. Set a goal for how active you’ll be for the next 4 weeks, then write down your minutes of activity each day. Turn in your logs after May 10th... Swansfield can win a free field trip to the Sportsark if we have most participation!

Seasonal Allergy Time: A seasonal allergy is an allergic reaction to a trigger typically present for part of a year. When pollen is present in the air, it can land in a person’s eyes, nose, lungs and skin to set up an allergic reaction. It is important to speak with your child’s physician if you suspect seasonal allergies. There are many good prescription and over the counter medications to help control symptoms. It is best to start using these medications just before your child’s

season begins and continue daily all through the season. Uncontrolled allergies put your child at risk for a secondary sinus infection, ear infections, and poor concentration at school. Pollen counts and forecast can be found on www.weatherchannel.com, www.pollen.com on T.V. or radio. Reduce your child's exposure to pollen by following a few simple tips: **1.** Close your windows; minimize early morning (between 5am and 10am) activities when pollen is usually emitted; **2.** Keep your car windows closed when traveling; **3.** Stay indoors when the pollen count is reported to be high **4.** Take a vacation during the height of the pollen season to a more pollen free area, such as the beach or sea; **5.** Avoid mowing the lawn and freshly cut grass; **6.** Machine dry bedding and clothing. Pollen may collect in laundry if it is hung outside to dry; **7.** Wash hands when coming in from outdoors; for severe sufferers shower and change clothing immediately after being outdoors for an extended period of time. ***Pollen sticks to clothing, skin and hair.***

Caring Messages for the remainder of this month focus on citizenship.

Monday, April 14th: What is citizenship? You can be a good citizen by using good manners. Saying "please" and "thank you," sharing with your friends, and taking turns are mannerly ways to act.

Tuesday, April 15th: Showing care and concern through kind words is something a good citizen remembers to do. When you tell people that you like them, ask a friend to play with you, or tell your parents you appreciate them, you are showing that you care about the feelings of others.

Wednesday, April 16th: A good citizen is someone who knows how to obey the rules at home, at school, and in the community. When you obey rules you are showing that you respect authority and those who make the rules. Many times rules are made so that everyone involved will be treated fairly and with respect. Rules are important because they keep people safe.

Thursday, April 17th: Voting on important issues is another way to show good citizenship. Issues can concern a small number of people (such as a classroom of students voting on a game to play during recess) or a great number of people (such as voting for leaders of a school, community, or even a country). Taking the time to vote is showing that you care about your community, which is an important part of being a good citizen.

Friday, April 18th: A good citizen is someone who cares for the property of others in the same way that he would care for his own things. Handling a friend's toy with care, cleaning up at home, using school materials carefully, and remembering not to litter are ways that you show respect for someone else's property.

Monday, April 21st: Citizenship is accepting responsibility for your actions. Not following a rule, breaking someone's toy, or using unkind words are mistakes that we all make. By admitting mistakes and apologizing for them, you are showing that you want to improve your behavior. A good citizen is someone who is not afraid to admit that he is wrong and is always willing to ask for a second chance.

Tuesday, April 22nd: Show your school spirit and take an active part in making our school a better place by volunteering your services. You might volunteer to help one of your teachers during your recess one day a week or help another student who needs practice in reading or extra help in math. Think of other ways you can volunteer your services to others at Swansfield.

Wednesday, April 23rd: If you want to feel a sense of pride in yourself, do something to help another person. Nothing will make you feel better about yourself!

Thursday, April 24th : No School

Friday, April 25th: Remember, citizenship means taking responsibility for our actions. If you and a friend are arguing, then you both have a problem. The solution will come only if both of you are willing to listen to each other and compromise. You both will benefit from the results.