



**Welcome to May!!  
We have almost made it to summer break!!**

We have completed our Scantron Performance Series testing for this school year. I know all of the students are relieved!! Starting next school year, there will be another type of test for our students to take, starting with our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. It is The Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program (ACAP) and is very similar to the Scantron PS test, which we will still take. **Swift School is proud to be part of the field test for this new type of assessment this year.** We will start testing on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. Please have your children here on time!!

**School Needs**

As you begin your spring cleaning, please consider donating your gently used school uniforms that your children have outgrown to our Swift School Clothes Closet. We need all sizes!!

**Do You Want to Know More About Social Media?**

On May 16<sup>th</sup>, there will be a special presentation on Social Media and the pros/cons of different Social Media sites and the ramifications according to the law. The School Resource Officer, Deputy Eric Smith, will be in attendance to help answer any questions that you may have. This presentation will take place at 6 p.m. in the school gym.

## **Summer Safety Tips**

As the weather gets warmer, many children will be playing outdoors more. Here are **some** tips to keep in mind for the safety of everyone:

- Apply sunscreen-follow the directions on the label and don't forget to use sunscreen on cloudy days as well.
- Protect against bugs by using insect repellents-follow the directions on the label to ensure it is effective; talk with your pediatrician or family medical doctor to choose which repellent is right for your family.
- Prevent dehydration by drinking by reminding your children to drink water every 15-20 minutes. If it is particularly hot and/or humid, water breaks should be encouraged more often.
- Guard against accidental drowning-if you have a swimming pool or if your child will be near one, it is very important to put multiple safety measures in place for safety:
  - Put barriers around the pool to restrict access.
  - Never leave children unsupervised.
  - Remember that drownings can happen silently (you may not hear a splash or call for help).
  - Learn about the dangers of secondary drowning.
  - Do not assume that someone is watching the children.

## **How to Prevent the Summer Slide**

Summer time reading is important to prevent a decline in the reading ability of your child/children. There are a few ways to help prevent the Summer Slide by doing the following:

- Encourage your child/children to read books that they enjoy for at least 30 minutes per day.
- Make it a family event:
  - Have all family members read at the same time.
  - Parents, caregivers and other adults can help prevent the summer slide by reading themselves. As children who see the adults in their lives reading, they often tend to read more themselves.

The Swift School Counseling program would like to invite parents and community members to be part of the School Counseling Advisory Committee for the upcoming year. This committee will meet at least 2 times per year, for approximately 45 minutes to discuss the counseling curriculum, the needs of our students and how I can best help each student. If you are interested, please call, email or send in a note to your teacher and I will contact you. My contact information is (251) 949-6422 or [tearver@bcbe.org](mailto:tearver@bcbe.org). I look forward to working with you!!

**Have A Safe and Fun Summer!!**