

SWIFT MIDDLE SCHOOL

1866 Robert Fulton Hwy. Quarryville, PA 17566

717-548-2187

www.solancosd.org

April
2024

Counselor's Corner

April is an exciting time at school but also can be overwhelming. Below is a great article to help navigate through these last few months of school.

WARNING-LOW BATTERY: How Introverts and Extroverts Recharge Their Social Batteries

According to a 2022 article in Medical News Today, a social battery is "the amount of energy a person has for socializing." Extroverts tend to have a longer social battery life than introverts however, they all need to be recharged in order to feel their best as they navigate the world. Extroverts recharge by being sociable. Regular playdates and get together with family and friends, participation in clubs or group activities, and opportunities to attend sporting events, concerts, or other large gatherings can all provide an energy boost for extroverts. In contrast, introverts have a shorter social battery life and need to be aware of when the low battery indicator comes on. Introverts recharge through solitary activities such as quiet walks in nature, time to work independently on such things as arts and crafts or legos, reading a book, or relaxing in front of the tv. They may benefit from scheduled breaks during full-day social activities. You can also provide your introvert with an "escape hatch" in social situations by teaching and practicing meditation strategies that they can employ when feeling overwhelmed in the moment.

Villines, Zawn, What is a Social Battery? Medical News Today, 10, May 2022.



8th Grade Team News

Pre-Algebra - We will begin April by finishing up our unit on lines and their equations and move into inequalities in conjunction with PSSA reviews.

ADV Algebra - We will begin April by finishing up our unit on exponents and their simplifications and move into polynomial manipulations in conjunction with Keystone reviews.

Geography - Students will be planning an ultimate vacation around our great United States, followed up by a visit to our neighbors to the North, Canada.

ELA - We will be reading, analyzing, and writing poetry and starting our Shakespeare unit with the play "Romeo and Juliet".

Social Studies - For the month of April, students will be wrapping up the Civil War unit. Students will have a Civil War test towards the beginning of April. We will then cover Reconstruction and the West!

LEAD - we will be working on a Wild Wild West project with Social Studies, and test taking strategies.

Science - The SSI is will be determining the cause of the large hail that was recorded by our suspects and will start to process the genetic evidence found at the abandoned boy scout camp.



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7th Grade Team News

Science: In the month of April, the 7th Grade Swift Scientists will be exploring what forces shape and change our Earth and how inclined planes and pulleys effect mechanical advantage.

ELA: For April, we will be writing a Personal Narrative. After that, we will have a short unit for PSSA Prep to prepare us for the state testing.

Math: In math class, the students will be completing a unit on statistics followed by a unit on probability.

LEAD: During the month of April, we will be finishing Island of The Blue Dolphins and beginning our functional reading unit.

Social Studies: "Learners in seventh grade social studies will be continuing their unit of European Settlement for the month of April. Topics that will be included in this unit will be Roanoke, Jamestown, Plymouth, puritans & pilgrims, 13 colonies, and more. Learners will have a test at the end of the unit to assess their knowledge of the entire unit, which will take place in mid-May."



6th Grade Team News

Language Arts- In April, the students will be reading The Story of My Life by Helen Keller to understand the characteristics of Literary Non-Fiction.

LEAD- Students will begin their unit on Public Speaking. First, they will be introduced to both speaking and listening skills. Next, they will be giving a demonstration speech, which includes designing their own thesis statement and creating a slideshow to accompany their speech. Finally students will present their demonstration speeches live to their classmates.

Social Studies- In April Social Studies will be learning about Ancient Rome and Developing Western Europe.

Science- - Students be learning about environment and ecology with a focus on the interactions among species.

Math- In April students will be working on a unit covering Data, Statistics, and Graphs. The month will conclude with a team review of key concepts that will be included on this year's 6th PSSA Math tests.



Monthly
Reminders:

*Continue to check PowerSchool
*Make sure lunch money is up to date

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The Nurse's Corner

The mobile dentist will be at school April 15-17. They can complete screenings, cleanings, x-rays, fluoride, and treat cavities all at school, saving an absence for a trip to the dentist. If you would like your student to be seen, please return the application to the health room (or apply online) as soon as possible.

www.MySchoolDentist.com



Nikki Bender, CSN

Related Arts Team News

Technology Education -

6th grade Technology Education, students are studying transportation by designing and racing a magnetic levitation car.

7th grade is testing their construction towers and then will begin a unit on manufacturing.

8th grade will finish printing their T-shirt graphics and begin to design their CO2 dragsters.

STEM-

6th grade students are wrapping up an independent study project on how STEM relates to everyday topics of interest.

7th grade students are exploring the renewable energy sources, and then will look at each one in more detail.

8th grade students will wrap up a nutrition study, and then will demonstrate their understanding of prosthetics.

Orchestra

Middle School Orchestra members have been doing a great job learning their music as we gear up for our May 7 and May 9 Spring Concerts. Please put the following dates on your calendar if you haven't already: May 7th Concert will be at Smith and May 9th will be at Swift. Both programs will start at 7:00pm. The Ensemble Group is also getting ready for the April 25th Program at the High School. That program is also at 7:00pm. Thanks for sending great children for me to work with!



Art-

6th grade is working on a 3-D sculpture of a favorite meal using paper

7th - will begin their 3-D unit with a groups project fish mobile and transition in to a coiled finer basket

8th - will be learning about clay and making a vessel.

FACS

6th grade will be learning basic sewing skills and teamwork, time management, and problem solving.

7th grade will be learning about personal finance/budgeting, making smart purchases, and interior design.

8th grade will be learning about child development with topics of safety, play, and children's literature.

Upcoming
Dates

*April 5 - Report Cards Sent Home

*PSSA Testing - April 23-25 (ELA); April 29-30 (Math); May 1-2 (Science - 8th Grade)