

# SWIFT MIDDLE SCHOOL

1866 Robert Fulton Hwy. Quarryville, PA 17566

717-548-2187

[www.solancosd.org](http://www.solancosd.org)

December  
2024

## Counselor's Corner

I hope this message finds you well! I wanted to share some important information regarding upcoming events that will help our 8th grade students prepare for high school.

First, we are excited to announce that we will be hosting a Career Day for 7th and 8th graders on December 20, 2024. This event will feature numerous presenters and a special panel of high school students who will discuss senior options and post-secondary education, specifically for our 8th graders.

Additionally, we have scheduled a High School Course Selection Meeting for all 8th grade parents on February 6, 2024, at 6:45 PM in the Swift Auditorium. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the course selection process and ask any questions you may have.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to reach out to Mrs. Pearson at [jennifer\\_pearson@solancosd.org](mailto:jennifer_pearson@solancosd.org).



## 6th Grade Team News

**Social Studies** - The students will be studying Ancient Egypt by using the characteristics of civilization.

**LEAD** - The students will be working on a research unit about Ancient Egypt, in conjunction with Mr. Miller's Social Studies Ancient Egyptian unit.

**Science** - Science continues on a molecular level, understanding physical and chemical changes. Then, learners will begin the Forces and Motion unit, understanding and demonstrating how simple machines are related to work and power.

**Math** - In December, 6th graders will be completing Unit 3 on ratios, proportions, and percentages.

**Language Arts** - The students will be developing an informative writing project on an invention they researched in LEAD class.



Principal - Paul Gladfelter    [paul\\_gladfelter@solancosd.org](mailto:paul_gladfelter@solancosd.org)

Assistant Principal - John Dolan    [john\\_dolan@solancosd.org](mailto:john_dolan@solancosd.org)

# SWIFT MIDDLE SCHOOL

1866 Robert Fulton Hwy. Quarryville, PA 17566

717-548-2187

www.solancosd.org

December  
2024

## 7th Grade Team News

**Language Arts-** This December, students will travel to the South Pole for our next nonfiction book, *Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World*.

**LEAD** - In the month of December, students will learn various during reading strategies, including annotating, inferencing, finding main ideas, and rereading. Students will practice their skills through short stories and nonfiction texts.

**Math/Extensions** -We will be completing a unit on solving various problems involving percents.

**Science** - In the month of December, Swift scientists will continue to apply their understanding of the structure of matter and how elements form ionic and covalent bonds. Students will finish the month of December by learning about parts of a chemical reaction specifically synthesis and decomposition chemical reactions.

**Social Studies** - In the month of December, we are exploring ancient American civilizations. Learners will be creating Aztec calendars, trying to solve the Mayan disappearance mystery, and exploring the fabled Incan location of Machu Picchu.



## 8th Grade Team News

**Language Arts-** In December, we will be concluding *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank and reading *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens.

**LEAD** - In Lead, we will be studying inferences by solving a few mysteries! We will also be working on our context clues to help define unfamiliar vocabulary words.

**Advanced-Algebra** - We will begin December by looking at advanced problem solving techniques calculating Domains and Ranges of functions. We will then begin exploring the area of geometry and its application to algebra.

**Pre-Algebra** - We will begin December by looking at graphing techniques for various equations and inequalities. We will then begin exploring the area of geometry and its application to algebra.

**Science** - The SSI will be diving into motion, forces and laws needed to develop the roll cage that will be tested after break.

**Social Studies-** Students will be wrapping up the Early 1800s unit with topics of Lewis and Clark and the War of 1812.



Monthly  
Reminders:

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

# SWIFT MIDDLE SCHOOL

1866 Robert Fulton Hwy. Quarryville, PA 17566

717-548-2187

www.solancosd.org

December  
2024

## The Nurse's Corner

We are hosting free school physicals on Friday, December 13th, for any 6th grade students who still need one. Please contact the health room as soon as possible if you would like your student to be seen. You will need to sign a permission form and complete a health history page no later than Friday, December 6th.

Nikki Bender, CSN, BSN, RN  
School Nurse



## Related Arts Team News

### Art

- 6th grade- This group is working with 3-D art and creating their aquatic animal in paper mache .
- 7th grade- Learning graphic design with stop motion animation..
- 8th grade- painting a seascape.

### Technology Education

- 6th Grade- Study the transportation unit by designing and creating a boat.
- 7th Grade- Mass-produce a decorative shelf.
- 8th Grade- Designing and creating dragsters as a final culminating project.

### STEM

- 6th Grade - Students will be working through a flight unit with their paper airplane designs.
- 7th Grade - Students will finish their wind turbine designs, and will then explore solar power.
- 8th Grade - Students will continue to design mini golf courses, and will play through as a class.

### Phys. Ed

- 7th Grade Health - Belczyk & Miller Fitness unit- healthy living, components of fitness and circulatory system.
- 6th, 7th & 8th Physical Education - Belczyk & Miller Volleyball



### Computer Tech

- 6th grade - Students will finish the digital citizenship unit on personal/private information and online predators. Then, they will focus on basic word processing skills including enumerations and formatting.
- 7th grade - Students will finish the digital citizenship unit on preventing cyberbullying and then will begin working in Google documents and creating tables.
- 8th grade -Students will finish the digital citizenship unit on social media and then will begin creating spreadsheets and adding formulas.

### Music

- 6th Grade - Students are learning about the elements of music
- 7th Grade - Students are completing their unit on melody and creating their own songs using Soundtrap.
- 8th Grade - Students are learning about ukulele chords and playing songs.

Upcoming  
Dates

\*December 12 - Winter Concert  
\*December 23 - January 1: No School