



March 2010
Issue No. 8

The Swift Eagle



Preparation for the CMTs

By: Sarah M., Chelsea L. and Angie M.



1. Get a good night's sleep and get up early enough so you don't have to rush getting ready for school
2. Eat a good, filling breakfast
3. Get to school on time
4. Bring an SSR book to read when you finish
5. Read each question carefully and listen to the teacher's directions
6. Look at all the answers and try to answer each question the best you can
7. Ask teachers for extra help beforehand if needed
8. Have study sessions with your friends
9. Give yourself example problems to study from
10. Stay calm and do your best!



READY. SET. TEST!

BY JACOB B.



The Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) is once again here at Swift! The test includes math, writing, grammar, reading, and eighth grade science. This test is held from March 2-March 16. The test is like preparing for a basketball game. It is if you are competing against other schools to get a better "score" and win!

We will have a pep rally for the CMT's after the tests because of the snow day on February 26, 2010 (original pep rally date). Still this year's theme will be the Olympics because the Winter Olympics just happened. The way to be involved in the pep-rally is to read and answer the daily questions in your classroom. If you get them all right then you can participate in the festivities.

Let's all do our best and have Swift "beat out" the other middle schools!



St Baldrick's

by Gabe P.

The St. Baldrick's motto is "**Shaving the Way to Conquer Kids Cancer**". This foundation funds more childhood cancer research grants than any other organization except the U.S. government, more than \$12 million in 2009 alone!



On March 16, at 6pm kids and adults will shave there head in the Watertown High School's Gym in support of this worthy cause. Contact Mr. Hogrefe in room145 if you have any questions.

Shaving the Way to Conquer Kids' Cancer

Teen Safety Presentation

By Klaudia S. and Victoria B.



On Monday February 8, 2010 four teens from Newtown and Brookfield came to Swift Middle School and presented a GREAT assembly about cyber safety and sexting. They preformed a skit about a girl who had problems with her friend and ended up being deceived by a 29 year old guy. Just because you think you know a person you talk to on the computer doesn't mean you *really* know who they are. Another teen, Justin, told us his true story about an online predator who pretended to be a young, attractive girl. This person ended up being a sick old man who coerced him into doing things that made him uncomfortable. After our cyberspace talk the presenters touched on another serious issue: sexting. Children and teens have been caught and put into juvenile detention because their cell phones and computers held graphic information. They told us about how you may think it is fun but in the end your information is leaked to everyone and can ruin your life. They provided us with websites to check out for use in case of cyber bullying, sexting and other problems that might be encountered with chat rooms and explicit pictures.

- **Cyber Bully 411** : <http://www.cyberbully411.org/>
- **OnGuard Online** : <http://www.onguardonline.gov/#>
- **Net Smartz** : http://www.missingkids.com/missingkids/servlet/ServiceServlet?LanguageCountry=en_US&PageId=178

STAY SAFE ON THE INTERNET AND ON YOUR PHONE!!!

What's Hot What's Not

By: Maggie L. Jules R. and Cassie F.



Are you in style? It's time to show that you have great style. In this edition of What's Hot What's Not we will help you get in style for this season.

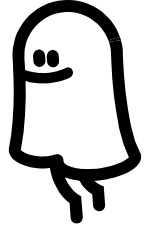


In for Girls	Out for Girls	In for Guys	Out for Guys
<p>Still In: Boots Hair accessories Skinny Jeans</p> <p>New: Moccasins Plaid winter jackets Northface Jackets Knit Hats</p>	<p>Still Out: Crocs Leggings with long shirts Sequins</p> <p>New: Half Finger Gloves Camouflage T.V. show clothing</p>	<p>Still in: American Eagle Aeropostale Under Armor</p> <p>New: Camouflage Baggy jeans</p>	<p>New: Wearing jeans low on waist Skinny jeans Long coats Long socks Sweaters</p>

Is Watertown Haunted?

By Julz B. and Lea B.







You've probably heard of ghost sightings in old, run-down buildings. Have you ever heard of them in our town? The Main Street grave yard is supposedly haunted by a little girl and an old military soldier. They guard the cemetery around 2 a.m. each evening. It has been said that if you go there with a video camera, you will hear a girl say, "leave" and hear tapping on the camera lens as if she is trying to get in your face. It might be a good idea to leave then, because if you don't you might be pulled over the stone into the graveyard. A man's body with the head of a donkey was supposedly spotted traveling down a desolate road. He was a traveler to Watertown in the olden days and died during his journey. He'll probably escape before you get a good look though. Another ghost is said to appear in mirrors and, when observed, moves toward the witness. This ghost haunts people brave enough to interrupt the peacefulness in our town. So, since there may be ghosts haunting our town...beware!



Survey Results

Jacob B., Duncan R., Tom G.

Months ago the students at Swift took a survey. After many hours of sorting and tallying we have the results. Do you agree with the majority?

<p>Favorite Sport: Basketball- 90 Football-102 Baseball/Softball-112 Soccer- 148 Other- 241</p>	<p>Favorite Fast Food Restaurant Burger King- 104 McDonald's- 159 Wendy's- 69 Taco Bell- 98 Other- 100</p>	<p>Would you rather... Sleep on your own comfy bed at your house-320 Sleep on the couch at your friend's house- 74 Sleep in a tent with your friends- 107 Sleep in fancy hotel room all alone- 79 Sleep on the floor at school- 30</p>
		
<p>Favorite Movie Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen- 133 Monsters vs. Aliens- 28 Independence Day- 34 Iron Man- 22 Other- 342</p>	<p>Favorite Season Fall- 81 Summer- 281 Winter- 124 Spring- 72</p>	<p>Would you rather... Live in the deserted Tundra- 15 Live in a busy city- 255 Live in a small country town- 264 Live in the desert- 9 Live and travel in a mobile home- 38</p>
		

GAME REVIEW

by: Brentin G. and Nick S.

This week in GAME REVIEW, we are reviewing the game called **LOONS FIGHT FOR FAME**. It is all about the Loony tunes characters which are of course, Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Sylvester, Tweedy, Elmer Fudd, and the Tasmanian Devil. You can battle other players or the computer simulator. You can try to ruin their auditions for fame and do your own audition to win. Winning it will make the other characters really jealous, but sadly there is a flaw... It is only available for Xbox. For the people who have Xbox's, if you buy this game you can play the mini games. Up to four players (quad player) can play, but only if you have Xbox live. This is a perfect game to play (we know, we saw the video).



Creative Corner

Swift
By Julz B.

Said a child to a teacher,
"Won't you educate me?"
"I will," said the teacher,
"and something more,"
"For I will give you wings
To soar."



Butterflies

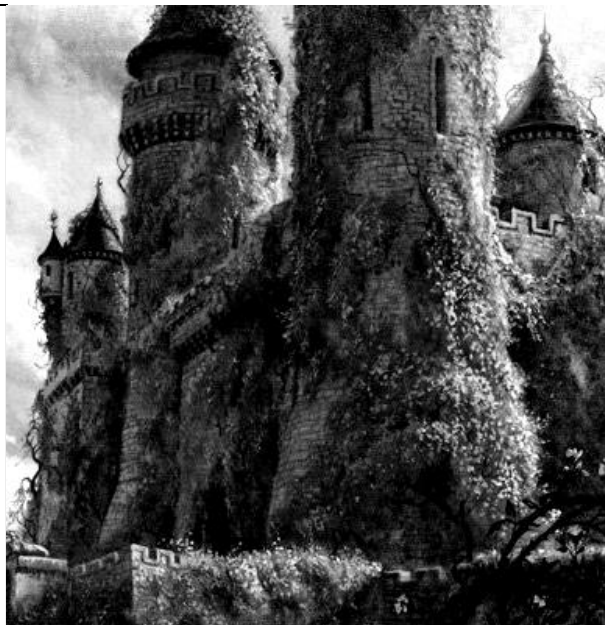
By: Emily L.

*Purple and pink
Orange and black
Glossy and smooth
Covered in spots
And stripes of color
Green and blue
Violet and maroon*



Fantasy
By: Lauren B.

Pretending everything glistens
In a world where everyone listens
Magic lights your mind
There is no opposite too being kind
Look behind the mask
To uncover the task
Of creating such a land
Where nothing is bland
Now come with me
To discover this fantasy



Color is...
By: Andrea P.

Red is the fire burning in the living room, love, and apple pie cooking in the oven.

Orange is the lip gloss I put on in the morning, a fresh breakfast to boost your energy and wonder.

Yellow is lemonade on a hot day, the sun beaming down on the beach, and entertainment.

Green is grass tickling your toes in the summer time, mint chocolate chip ice cream, and trees shadowing the forest.

Blue is the sound of a loved one crying, the smell of salt and the sea mist coming from the ocean and the sky on a clear day.

Purple is grapes on the vine, violets blooming in the springtime, and the sound of music.

Pink is cotton candy at the county fair, tulips in the meadow, and candy hitting your sweet taste buds.

Best Friends
By: Heather C.

Here at Swift, we all have best friends,
They're people you can count on, they secure loose ends.
Together forever for both girls and boys,
From this year back to preschool, when you shared toys.
No matter how much they fight, they always make up,
And when they're together, there's plenty of luck.
In this school, so happy, so full of joy and fun,
On your supplies list, it should be #1.

Love

By: Emily L.

L-Loyalty

O-Observation

V-Valiance

E-Energetic



Beauty

By: Lauren B.

Twirling and swirling in moon light
The rain drops revive the night
As water mixed with her bright eyes
A mother called earth sighs
For beauty is hidden in the strangest of places
Not always exhibited in fragile faces
You must look steeper
For a beauty much deeper
Than the ocean
Filled with its complex emotion

School Tips

By Melissa K. and Lauren V.

We are here to tell you about middle school tips. From bullies to study skills, we'll give you the scoop on how to survive middle school!

BULLYING

Bulling is an important crisis in the middle school world. Here are a couple of tips to steer clear of a bully's direction, or prevent a bully from hurting you physically or emotionally.

1. If bullied, tell your parents, a teacher, or an adult you rely on. REMEMBER, telling someone is not tattling.
2. If a bully picks on you, do not retaliate or get angry. Try taking a deep breathe and let it out slowly. Do anything that comforts you.
3. Respond evenly and firmly to the bully or say nothing and walk away. Do not show the bully that you are scared or afraid of him or her. He or she will just keep bullying you.



CLIQUEES

For all those people that belong to Swift cliques, they are groups of friends, but not all groups of friends are cliques!

1. If you are feeling left out, well you know what? Don't worry about it! Just because that clique doesn't like you and won't let you in doesn't mean that it has to bug you!
2. Cliques are small, exclusive groups of friends who share common traits and common interests (music, dress, sports, etc.). Each member is either directly or indirectly connected to each other member. Cliques usually refer to groups of girls; however boys are also involved in cliques.
3. Most cliques are led by a few of the more popular kids who make decisions about which kids gain entry to the clique. Don't worry about cliques; just be your own person!

Movie Reviews

By Sean C. & Chase C.

Percy Jackson And The Olympians: The Lightning Thief-

Now, we don't want to wreck your opinion of the movie, but we didn't like it all that much. If you read the books, watching the movie shouldn't be high on your list of weekend



activities. They took out a few characters which were important to the plot of the book. Some key locations were taken out as well. The plot was similar, but different for the most part. On the other hand, if you didn't read the books, the movie was AMAZING! The special effects were fantastic, and lots of real metal & leather was used in the costumes. There were some funny jokes, some were for older kids, though. This movie was made for older kids, so we recommend that you don't bring kids under 10 with you when you go see it.