



May 2025

SWEETWATER

Pelican Press

Sweetwater Elementary, a top performing school in Volusia County

<http://schools.volusia.k12.fl.us/sweetwater/>

386-322-6230 school phone #

386-506-0012 school fax #

Volume 31, Issue 9

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This half of the school year has passed so fast! It is hard to believe we are in the last month of our school year. We have had an amazing school year and I am so thankful for our parent base and the support we receive each year. I also want to give a big shoutout to our PTA and the wonderful things they do for our students and staff. We really do appreciate our PTA!!

This final month brings many fun activities. We hope your students will be here every day to enjoy this last month! Please make sure to look at our calendars to ensure you are up to date on each day's events. Teacher Appreciation Week is the week of May 5-May 9, please remember your child's teacher during this time. Even a note of appreciation is a welcomed thought from you.

We have several testing days during this month beginning with May 1, which is the FAST Reading Test for 3rd-5th grade. May 6 is our 5th Grade Science Assessment and May 13 is our FAST Math Test for 3rd-5th grade. Please help your child by ensuring they have a good night's rest and plenty of positive comments on their way to school!

I have so enjoyed returning from my retirement to finish this school year with all of our students and staff. Thank you for welcoming me back. I hope each family has a wonderful, fun-filled summer!

Sincerely,

Tamara Hopkins, Principal

Sweetwater Mission

Statement

We, the caring community of learners at Sweetwater Elementary, strive toward a lifetime of achieving our "personal best", guided by a positive attitude in a nurturing environment.

Volusia County Schools Mission Statement

"Through the individual commitment of all, our students will graduate with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to be successful contributors to our democratic society."

Coaches' Corner - May 2025

We are almost at the finish line of this school year! The weather is starting to feel like summer, so please make sure your children are dressed appropriately for the heat when they have PE. Short-sleeved shirts, shorts, sneakers, etc. and water bottles are encouraged. (Please make sure bottles are filled with water only please! Ants love Gatorade and other flavored drinks.)

A final reminder that students **CANNOT PARTICIPATE** in PE if they are wearing Crocs. This is not only a Sweetwater safety rule, but also a district rule. Participation is a large part of students' PE grades, so if they are wearing Crocs and are unable to participate multiple times in a grading period, grades **will be** impacted.

Our Fitness Festival Team competed at the Volusia County Fitness Festival on March 14th. We are so proud of all our athletes for the effort and excellent sportsmanship shown. The following students placed in the top 5 of their events:

Mile Run:

Piper Adkison - 2nd
Emma Hardee - 5th
Eden Smith - 1st
Emily Harrison - 4th
Jax Ure - 4th

50 Yd. Dash

Jayda Varley - 1st
Emily Harrison - 1st
Zyree Spencer - 2nd
Trenton Fuller - 3rd

Sit & Reach

Piper Adkison - 1st
Penny Peacock - 4th
Titus Smith - 3rd
Blake Nguyen - 3rd

Pull Ups:

Becca Goebel - 3rd
Kimberly Castro - 4th
Preston Kramer - 2nd
Trenton Fuller - 3rd
Jace Streng - 3rd (tie/9 Yrs.)
Enzo Palmier - 3rd (tie/9 Yrs.)

Shuttle Run:

Zyree Spencer - 3rd
Trenton Fuller - 2nd

Standing Long Jump:

Trenton Fuller - 1st
Zyree Spencer - 2nd

We are looking forward to a fun Spring Fling on May 23rd!

:) Coach Cooney, Coach Meadows, Coach K



We Appreciate You!

Teacher Appreciation Week: Teacher Appreciation Week is **May 5-9, 2025**. This is a great time to let your child's teacher know that you appreciate all they have done for your child this year!

Extended Day Appreciation: Please take a moment and tell our Extended Day Staff how much you appreciate their dedication to our school.

School Nurse Day: The National Association of School Nurses has proclaimed **May 7, 2025** as National School Nurse Day. National School Nurse Day was established in 1977 to foster a better understanding of the role of school nurses in the educational setting. Thank you to **Ms. Dascoli** for being a great school nurse!

Child Nutrition Employee Appreciation Week: **May 5 - 9, 2025** is the week set aside to say thank you to our School Way Café workers! Our incredible School Way Café team and hostesses deserve a round of applause!

Principal Appreciation Day: **May 1, 2025** Thank you to Mrs. Hopkins and the entire administrative team for ensuring our Sweetwater Pelicans SOAR!



SCHOOL LUNCH HERO DAY



Counselor's Corner

News From Ms. Howard & Mrs. Elliott



Dear Sweetwater Family,

With a heavy heart, I am writing to share that I will be leaving my position as school counselor at Sweetwater Elementary at the end of this school year. This year, our district imposed many budget cuts, including the reduction of elementary school counselors to one per school. Please know that this was not my decision, as this community has meant the world to me.

Over the years I've had the privilege of walking alongside so many of you through both joyful milestones and difficult moments. It has been an honor to watch our students grow—not just academically, but as kind, strong, and resilient individuals.

Thank you for trusting me, for letting me be part of your journeys, and for reminding me every single day why this work matters. You've made me laugh, cry, and beam with pride more times than I can count. You are the reason I love what I do.

With all my heart,

Ms. Elliott



As we wrap up the school year, we want to encourage our kiddos to finish strong!

Have a safe and AMAZING summer break!

5th graders: We will miss you dearly, but are so excited for you to take your next steps!

You're going to do great things!

5TH TO 6TH GRADE TRANSITION

5th Grade Parents:

On Thursday May 22nd, our 5th graders will take part in a fun-filled event called, **"Middle School Mix-Up"**. For the entire day, students will follow a bell schedule; change classes independently, attend lessons on working a combination lock, do career exploration activities, play middle school bingo, hear from a panel of former Sweetwater students about life in middle school, and more. They will also have an opportunity to participate in "health" class, where we will share the district's 5th grade puberty education program (requires a signed permission slip). They won't want to miss this special day.



Visit the scholastic parent website for many great articles on how to help make your child's middle school transition a success.

www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/school-success-guides/making-the-move-to-middle-school



May PTA News

The end of the school year is almost here, and PTA is excited to continue to support our school so that teachers, staff, and students have an outstanding experience and make special memories at Sweetwater! Thanks to your generosity, we are planning an incredible Teacher Appreciation Week from May 5th-9th. Watch our Facebook page for opportunities to volunteer

Here is how you can engage with PTA this month:



What: Spring Glow Party Dance
When: Friday, May 2nd
Where: SWES Multi-purpose Room
Who: 4th and 5th Grade Students
How: Purchase tickets online here → or here: <https://shorturl.at/jSxyF>



What: PTA Board Meeting + 2025-2026 Board Election
When: Tuesday, May 6th - 5:30 PM
Where: SWES Media Center
Who: All PTA Members



What: End of Year Skate Party
When: Friday, May 16th
Where: AstroSkate in Ormond Beach
Who: All Sweetwater Families - this is a *private* Sweetwater family event (no drop-off)
How: \$10 per skater at the door.

What: Spring Fling
When: Friday, May 23rd
Where: SWES PE Field
Who: All Sweetwater Students
How: Watch our Facebook page for volunteer sign-ups!



Thanks for your ongoing support of our students and staff!
~PTA Board~

End of the year Information

Medication Information



Please be sure to pick up your child's medication from the clinic by the end of the school day on **May 28**. This includes prescription and non-prescription medication as well as nebulizer and any equipment you may have brought in for medical procedures. An adult must pick up these items, as we cannot send them home with the students. If the medication is not picked up by the end of the school day, the medication will be disposed of.

Please use this web site <http://myvolusiaschools.org/student-health-services> to access the new medication forms for next school year. Forms must be renewed by the parent, at or before the beginning of each school year in order for your child to receive medication or procedures during school hours. Students carrying their own epi-pen, inhaler or diabetic supplies, are also required to have a new medication form on file each school year. If you have any questions please contact our school clinic nurse, Ms. Dascoli.

Change of address?



If you have had a change of address, phone number, or emergency information, please help us update our records. Please call Ms. Bauer at 322-6230 to make any changes.

Lost and Found



Please encourage your child to check the lost and found table the last week of school! There are many items of clothing, lunch boxes, and book bags that do not have names on them. Unclaimed items will be donated to a charitable organization.

Textbooks and Library Books

Students and parents are responsible for paying for the replacement of textbooks and library books that were assigned to the student and lost or damaged during the school year. If you receive a notice from your child's teacher or our Media Specialist, Ms. Gruenwald, regarding your child's lost or damaged books, please make sure you have settled your account before **Friday, May 9, 2025**.



May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 3rd-5th Grade FAST Reading Test Kona Ice	2 School Lunch Appreciation Day Spirit Day 4th & 5th Grade Glow Party 6-8 p.m.	3
4	5 Teacher Appreciation Week	6 Jenna Shirts 5th Grade Science Assessment	7 School Nurse Appreciation Day Positivi-Tee Shirts Early Release, 1:30	8 Kona Ice	9 Spirit Day Media Center Deadline: Books, AR & SSYRA	10
11	12	13 Jenna Shirts 3rd-5th Grade Fast Math Test SAC Meeting, 3:00	14 Positivi-Tee Shirts Early Release, 1:30 Cast Party 1:30-2:30	15 Kona Ice	16 Spirit Day PTA Spirit Night Astro Skate 6-8 p.m.	17
18	19	20 Jenna Shirts	21 Positivi-Tee Shirts 4th Grade Science VST NO Early Release	22 Middle School Mix Up Day 3rd Grade Science VST 1st Grade Patriotic Program, 9:20 Kona Ice	23 Spirit Day Field Day	24
25	26 Memorial Day Holiday NO SCHOOL	27 School Guardian Appreciation Day Jenna Shirts 5th Grade Party/ Game Time Field Trip	28 Last Day of School For Students 5th Grade Awards Ceremony, 8:00 Early Release, 1:30	29	30	31



Breakfast K-5

May 2025

*Menus are subject to change

Breakfast Prices:
Students: Complimentary
Adults and visiting children: \$4.00
Prepay at MySchoolBucks.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

			Thursday 1 Country Egg Scramble Tater Tot Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Mixed Fruit Cup JUICE ORANGE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Friday 2 French Toast Sticks YOGURT STRAW/BAN 48/4oz/cs JUICE APPLE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast
Monday 5 Mini Corn Pups Glazed Dunkin Sticks 60/cs Pineapple Cup JUICE APPLE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Tuesday 6 Sausage Breakfast Pizza YOGURT STRAW/BAN 48/4oz/cs Diced Pear Cup JUICE ORANGE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Wednesday 7 Chicken Griddle ChocChip Muffin 72/2oz/cs Mixed Fruit Cup JUICE APPLE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Thursday 8 Bacon Egg & Cheese on a Sweet Bun YOGURT STRAW/BAN 48/4oz/cs Tater Tot Diced Peach Cup JUICE ORANGE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Friday 9 French Toast Sticks Strawberry Pop-Tart JUICE APPLE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast
Monday 12 Artisan Maple Waffle YOGURT STRAW/BAN 48/4oz/cs Diced Peach Cup JUICE APPLE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Tuesday 13 Chicken Biscuit Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups JUICE ORANGE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Wednesday 14 Cinnamon Roll Strawberry Pop-Tart Mandarin Orange Fruit Cup JUICE APPLE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Thursday 15 Bacon Egg Cheese Biscuit Glazed Dunkin Sticks 60/cs Tater Tot Diced Peach Cup JUICE ORANGE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Friday 16 French Toast Sticks YOGURT STRAW/BAN 48/4oz/cs JUICE APPLE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast
Monday 19 Pancake Breakfast Sandwich Donut Holes Blueberry 60/cs Pineapple Cup JUICE APPLE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Tuesday 20 Egg and Cheese on a sweet bun Strawberry Pop-Tart Diced Peach Cup JUICE ORANGE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Wednesday 21 Chicken Biscuit YOGURT STRAW/BAN 48/4oz/cs Orange Mandarin Section Cups 72/4.5oz/cs JUICE APPLE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Thursday 22 Country Egg Scramble Tater Tot Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Mixed Fruit Cup JUICE ORANGE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Friday 23 French Toast Sticks YOGURT STRAW/BAN 48/4oz/cs JUICE APPLE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast
	Tuesday 27 Sausage Breakfast Pizza YOGURT STRAW/BAN 48/4oz/cs Diced Pear Cup JUICE ORANGE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Wednesday 28 Chicken Griddle ChocChip Muffin 72/2oz/cs Mixed Fruit Cup JUICE APPLE 100% CRTN 70/4oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast		



Lunch K-5 May 2025

*Menus are subject to change

Lunch Prices:
Students: Complimentary
Adults and visiting children: \$5.00
Prepay at MySchoolBucks.com

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			Thursday 1 BBQ shredded chicken sandwich Cobb Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Southern Baked Beans TOMATOES FR GRAPE 50/3OZ/Cs Sidekick BlueRaspberry 84/4.4oz/cs Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Friday 2 Baked Chicken Penne K-5 Texas toast Boneless Chicken Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Side Salad CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit
Monday 5 Boneless Chicken & Mini Naffles PBJ Bundle Roasted Green Beans CUCUMBERS CHL SL 50/3oz/cs Diced Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Tuesday 6 Cheeseburger Ham Cheese Croissant Potato Smiles CELERY CHL STICKS 50/3oz/cs Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Wednesday 7 Pepperoni Cheese Bread PBJ Bundle Corn CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Slushie Berry Berry Blue 60/cs Orange Mandarin Section Cups 72/4.5oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit	Thursday 8 Beef and Cheese Nacho Chip Tortilla Round 64/1.45oz/cs Salad, Ham and Cheese K5 Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Refried Beans TOMATOES FR GRAPE 50/3OZ/Cs Mixed Fruit Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Friday 9 Chicken Alfredo Texas toast Taco Salad Chip Tortilla Round 64/1.45oz/cs Broccoli CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Sidekick BlueRaspberry 84/4.4oz/cs Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit
Monday 12 Mac & Cheese Texas toast PBJ Bundle Roasted Green Beans CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Slushie Berry Berry Blue 60/cs Diced Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Tuesday 13 Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Nardone's Turkey and Cheese Bun Broccoli CELERY CHL STICKS 50/3oz/cs Orange Mandarin Section Cups 72/4.5oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit	Wednesday 14 Chicken wings Chicken Wings with Sweet Teriyaki Sauce Biscuit PBJ Bundle Southern Baked Beans TOMATOES FR GRAPE 50/3OZ/Cs Pineapple Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Thursday 15 Corn dog, Chicken Grilled Fajita Chicken Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Corn CUCUMBERS CHL SL 50/3oz/cs Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit	Friday 16 Chicken Sandwich Cobb Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Sweet Potato Crinkle Fries CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Sidekick BlueRaspberry 84/4.4oz/cs Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit
Monday 19 Tangerine Chicken Fried Rice PBJ Bundle Broccoli CUCUMBERS CHL SL 50/3oz/cs Orange Mandarin Section Cups 72/4.5oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit	Tuesday 20 Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Nardone's Turkey Cheese Croissant Corn CELERY CHL STICKS 50/3oz/cs Diced Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Wednesday 21 Stuffed Cheese Sticks PBJ Bundle Roasted Green Beans CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Pineapple Cup Slushie Berry Berry Blue 60/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit	Thursday 22 BBQ shredded chicken sandwich Cobb Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Southern Baked Beans TOMATOES FR GRAPE 50/3OZ/Cs Sidekick BlueRaspberry 84/4.4oz/cs Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Friday 23 Baked Chicken Penne K-5 Texas toast Boneless Chicken Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Side Salad CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit
	Tuesday 27 Cheeseburger Ham Cheese Croissant Potato Smiles CELERY CHL STICKS 50/3oz/cs Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Wednesday 28 Pepperoni Cheese Bread PBJ Bundle Corn CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Slushie Berry Berry Blue 60/cs Orange Mandarin Section Cups 72/4.5oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit		

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