



# Southwest Snapshot

September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## Early Release Wednesday , September 16<sup>th</sup>

### Technology Tips

**HotSpots:** If the HotSpot is giving you issues first try resetting the HotSpot. We have found this solves most of the issues. To reset the HotSpot, press and hold the button on top of the HotSpot.

**Clever:** Two tips for Clever; 1. remember to add @dpsnc.net to the end of the username when logging in. 2. clear your search history (control + H) when in chrome

**Chromebooks:** The more tabs you have open the harder your Chromebook has to work. Please limit the amount of tabs that are activity running (Open) when using Chromebooks.

### Device and/or Curriculum Material Procedures

If you are still in need of a device or grade level curriculum. Call the office (919-560-3972) and make your request. The front office staff will let you know when you can come to SW to pick up the needed items. When arriving at SW, call the office, give them your student's name we will make sure you get what you need!



The progress report date has been extended! Progress reports will be available on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. All progress reports and report cards will be disseminated via Parent Portal this year.

For more information about creating a secure, online Parent Portal account, please visit the [Parent Portal Resources](#) tab. There you will find print and video resources to help you navigate the process of setting up your own Parent Portal account. To access the Parent Portal, click the [Link to PowerSchool Parent Portal](#).

*\*Please note, prior to setting up a Parent Portal account, you will need to contact your child's teacher directly to obtain a letter with an access code and password unique to your child (see [instructions](#) for additional information)\**



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We want to stay in touch with you and your family, as well as send you important information while we are learning are remotely. To do so, we need to be sure we have current contact information (address, phone number and email) on file for you.

THANKS  
FOR  
BEING  
AWESOME

## National Instructional Assistant Week

This week we are celebrating our Instructional Assistants. We want to recognize all the hard work that DPS' amazing IAs do in their class/school/District.

### Monday: *Bar None, You Are the Best IA Around*

Idea: breakfast, granola, candy bars, etc.

### Tuesday: *Dinner on Us*

Idea: Gift card to a restaurant

### Wednesday: *We Think the World of You*

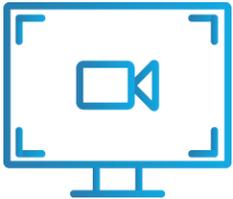
Idea: Note/Email of appreciation

### Thursday: *Lunch on Us*

Idea: Buy lunch and have delivered to your IA or gift card

### Friday: *Relax this Weekend*

Idea: spa gift cards, mani/pedi gift cards, or a basket for a home pampering



Durham Public Schools will be opening this year fully remote (all students will attend school from home). Teachers will be recording classes to make them available for students that are absent. Only complete the survey if you DO NOT WANT your child to be recorded during remote instruction.

Las Escuelas Públicas de Durham abrirán este año de forma totalmente remota (todos los estudiantes asistirán a la escuela desde casa). Los maestros grabarán las clases para que estén disponibles para los estudiantes que estén ausentes. Solo complete esta encuesta si NO DESEA que se registre a su hijo durante la instrucción remota.

- Notification Of Directory Policy And Opt-Out Rights letter in [ENGLISH](#) & [SPANISH](#).
- Notification Of Directory Policy And Opt-Out Rights [online form](#)



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[Family Academy Virtual Class](#) list offers many classes to help families better understand many of the online tools our teachers are currently using. The Family Academy Video Archive has been updated and now includes the Canvas virtual classes that took place on Tuesday and Wednesday evening. Videos are available in English and Spanish.



## YOGA



We have an amazing SW parent who teaches yoga and would like to offer a virtual community yoga class, Saluting the Sun, to help raise money for SW. This class will be pay what you can, but payment is not required to participate. The important part is that we have an opportunity to build community and take care of ourselves. This class will be open to teachers, staff, parents, and anyone else who would like to do a little yoga and support our school. This class will be virtual and geared towards adults though kids are never discouraged from participating! Please fill out the [survey](#) so that we can find the best time for this class.

Tenemos un padre increíble de SW que enseña yoga y le gustaría ofrecer una clase de yoga comunitaria virtual, Saluting the Sun, para ayudar a recaudar fondos para SW. Esta clase será de contribuir lo que pueda, pero no se requiere pago para participar. La parte importante es que tenemos la oportunidad de construir una comunidad y cuidarnos. Esta clase estará abierta a maestros, personal, padres y cualquier otra persona que quiera hacer un poco de yoga y apoyar a nuestra escuela. Esta clase será virtual y estará dirigida a adultos, ¡aunque los niños nunca se desaniman a participar! Complete la [encuesta](#) para que podamos encontrar el mejor momento para esta clase



## Closegap

We are also excited to bring Closegap to Southwest students as a daily emotions check-in. Each Southwest student will have a Closegap account. Their username is their school email address ([firstname-lastname@dpsnc.net](#)) and their password is their birthdate - two digit month, two digit day. For example, Mrs. Kiddoo's login information would be [symone-kiddoo@dpsnc.net](#) (dash rather than underscore) with a password of 0922. Students will learn how to log in and use close gap during their Guidance Special with Mrs. Schira and Mrs. Rosenberger. There is also more information about closegap on our SWE Wellness Wednesday canvas page! Parents are able to create their own account and we can connect you as a "caregiver" to your child! We will start using Closegap the week of September 21st.



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Tag us in your remote learning posts!

Twitter & Instagram: @Southwestdps



## Southwest Website

Our website will be getting a new design soon but, in the meantime, please remember to continue to check our website for the latest news, dates and resources.

## Clubs

We are excited to bring student clubs to Wellness Wednesdays at Southwest Elementary. Activities include Painting & Drawing, basketball, anime, cooking, karaoke, and more! The links to join are hosted on the SWE Wellness Wednesday canvas page with a schedule view by grade-level. If you are interested in hosting a club as a parent, please contact Ms. Kiddoo by emailing her [symone\\_kiddoo@dpsnc.net](mailto:symone_kiddoo@dpsnc.net).

## Family Needs Assessment

Student Services is launching a Family Needs Assessment for this school year to gauge both what needs our families have currently, such as food delivery and vision assistance, and identify people who are willing to help meet student and family needs. To fill out the form, visit [bit.ly/swneeds](https://bit.ly/swneeds). It will also be hosted on our SWE Wellness Wednesday canvas page!

## Resource of the Week!

Piedmont Wildlife Center has two programs during virtual school to offer to our families.

[Animal Encounters](#) - Have an owl swoop in on your next zoom get together! Hang out with some backyard wildlife like reptiles and bunnies!

Coming this fall - [Woodland Afterschool & Wild Wednesdays](#). During these programs, the kids will go to one of the Piedmont Wildlife locations and participate in camp programs. They will focus on STEM curriculum as much as they can, but the biggest benefit is definitely expending energy and safely socializing!

Our weekly family update is also hosted on canvas and can be found at [tinyurl.com/swefamilyupdates](https://tinyurl.com/swefamilyupdates)