

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

THE CROC TIMES

VOL. III . . . No. 82

Friday, December 1, 2017

Free



I hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful Thanksgiving! It is a pleasure having the opportunity to work side by side with each of you in order to provide your child the best 5th grade experience. I am thankful and grateful for each of you and your child! Thank you for being amazing.

We are rounding our 2nd quarter quickly. It's hard to believe we are left with 2 more weeks before our Holiday/Track-Out break. With that being said, it is important we help our students stay focused and engaged.

Stay Up to Date



To stay up to date be sure to read each issue of the "Rockin' Croc Times", follow us on Twitter @sycamorecreek5, and visit our [website](http://www.sycamore5th.weebly.com). (www.sycamore5th.weebly.com).

CHOMP Update

We voted on our 100 CHOMPliment reward (Read-A-Thon /PJ day) and we are able to celebrate our reward on Friday. We are still working hard daily to earn our CHOMPliments at lunch and specials. I'm proud of their efforts and am looking forward to our next milestone 150. However, I have seen some issues with students CHOMPing in the hall. Please remind your child about his/her responsibility to CHOMP and follow our Sycamore Creek Expectations while traveling throughout the building. CHOMPliments: 106

Backpack Buddies

We need your help collecting donations for our Backpack Buddy Program. This program provides food for students in our community for weekends and extended holidays/track out. You can sign up to donate or volunteer here:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/508084CAEA822A2F94-back

Thank you for your support. Please reach out if you have any questions or suggestions!

IMPORTANT DATES

11/21: Early Release

11/22 - 11/24: Thanksgiving Break

12/1: 2nd quarter Interim reports

12/18: Fifth Grade Spelling Bee

12/21: Early Release

1/12: School Wide Spelling Bee



Pick of the Week:
Ethan

Croc with Character: JJ

Newsworthy Announcements

BIG SCREENS

Over our Thanksgiving break, our classrooms were updated with Large TV screens that we will begin using for instruction. Over the next week, our Smartboard will be uninstalled. We are looking forward to this change and are grateful to our wonderful PTA for ensuring all classrooms have been equipped with the best technology!



“If we teach today as we taught yesterday, we rob our children of tomorrow.”

John Dewey, Democracy and Education, 1916

Spelling Bee Information

All students will complete the written spelling BEE test to narrow the pool of students that complete in the class oral spelling bee.

They will be tested on the first 20 words on the Grade Level List.

Students who score a 100% will move onto the class oral spelling bee.

Mr. Tomaszewski - Professional Training

Next week from December 4 - December 7th, Mr. Tomaszewski will be participating in a training in Ocracoke NC. Mr. Tomaszewski is looking forward to the technological training he will receive and bringing the concepts and ideas back to the Creek. If you have any transportation changes or questions please contact the office at 919-841-4333. If you have any questions regarding this absence please contact Mr. T at jtomaszewski@wcpss.net.

Carolina Hurricane's "Read"volution

Recently your student brought home information regarding a new reading incentive program started by the Carolina Hurricanes. Students and the school will have opportunities to earn prizes and track their reading progress. Students may track their reading at the following [link](#) using their google login and password.

Meals on Wheels!

Our teachers had the privilege of delivering Thanksgiving meals to some of our CROCS on our early release day before Thanksgiving break. This experience was amazing and allowed us the opportunity to grow as a team and experience the love of giving!

Curriculum Update

Math: In math this week, we moved into our new unit of multiplying decimal numbers. Students grasped multiplying decimal numbers by whole numbers quickly. They are able to demonstrate various strategies to solve these multiplication problems. On Tuesday, students learned how to use the area model to multiply decimal numbers. We are working on gaining a stronger number sense when it comes to multiplying decimal numbers. On Wednesday, students continued to practice multiplying decimal numbers. The unit continued through the rest of the week. Don't forget about the videos available on our [website](#). These can be used to help your child especially while they are at home working on their homework.

Reading: In reading, this week, the students worked on appropriate ways of engaging in conversation with their peers in order to hold each other accountable on what they have learned. We will continue to use these talking stems to engage in scholarly conversations with each other. Furthermore, students practiced identifying text structure and finding the main idea using their Time For Kids magazine. We also completed a graffiti protocol while identifying the main idea of an article about the battle of Lexington and Concord. During strategy groups, this week we discussed the dangers of using your cell phone while crossing the street. Again, using the Time for Kids magazine, the students read a brief article about a new law that was passed in Honolulu, HI about texting while crossing the road. We will continue this discussion in strategy groups next week while we form our own claim and use research to support it. In Writing, students continue working on their independent opinion writing piece. Students researched their topic and found strong reasons for their position. We have also been working on finding evidence to support our reasons. Please ask your student to see their writing and talk about the process we are working through in class.

Science: In science this week, students took their mini unit test on the respiratory and circulatory systems. They took notes on the final body system we will study, the digestive system. I hope you've been enjoying all the pictures and updates I've posted in Class Dojo. We are ending our unit with a brief study on genetics. This week they learned about heredity and how traits are passed from one generation to the next.

OBJECTIVES



I Can Statements:

I Can... In order to bring purpose to what your child is learning, we post I CAN statements on our board daily. It is important that your child is continually utilizing these to evaluate their understanding. You can check in with your student by discussing the following statements.

Math:

- Multiply whole numbers by decimals using concrete models.

Reading:

- Make inferences using information from the text.
- Use the main idea from an informational text to craft a summary.
- Compare and Contrast the overall structure of a nonfiction text.

Writing:

- Write opinion writing pieces that utilize clear reasons and concrete evidence from sources

Science

- Understand the seven major body systems