

♥ Happy Valentines Day ♥

## This Week!

This has been an absolutely fantastic week. The book fair is a complete success and the students are certainly enjoying their newfound books. Next week, on February 14 our students will have their yearbook club pictures and their fifth grade group photo. **Be sure that your student wears their class t-shirt on February 14.** Also, in Friday folders this week you will find our final field trip form. The field trip will be to the Poe Health Center and will be on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The cost of the field trip will be \$5 and the money will be due March 3. Also, the book fair will continue until February 17.

## 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](http://www.sycamore5th.weebly.com)).

## IMPORTANT DATES



- 2/9 - Family Night (Book Fair)
- 2/9 - Parent Meeting Human Growth (5-6pm in the Gym)
- 2/10 - Science Project Due
- 2/11 - Science Expo
- 2/14 - Yearbook Pictures
- 2/16 - Croc 5 Chorus
- 2/23 - Croc 5 Chorus
- 2/24 - Quarter 3 Interims
- 3/6 - Leesville Orchestra Demonstration 11:30 - 12:15
- 3/20 - 3/23 - Human Growth and Development Lessons
- 3/23 - Poe Health Center Field Trip



Pick of the Week: Jaden



Croc w/ Character: Chloe

### February Character trait: Integrity

*Have you ever been honest when you could have gotten away with not telling the truth? Have you ever CHOMPed even though there were no adults around to see it? Well then you have shown great Integrity! Integrity means you always do the right thing no matter what, and you're always honest. Talk about some ways you show integrity.*

[www.sycamore5th.weebly.com](http://www.sycamore5th.weebly.com)  
[jtomaszewski@wcpss.net](mailto:jtomaszewski@wcpss.net)

## CHOMP Update

I am very pleased with our students' CHOMPing this week. Our students were very polite and respectful during our visit to the book fair. We need to work on our transitioning in the classroom a little bit, but overall we are doing a great job. This week we also had our CHOMPliment reward of device day.

We currently have 181 CHOMPliments

## Upcoming Counselor Dates

Wednesday, March 8: *Dream Job Day*: Students are encouraged to dress up as their dream career!

Thursday, March 9: *Dress for Success Day*: Students are encouraged to dress professionally as if they are interviewing for a career!

Friday, March 10: *College Day*: Students are encouraged to show up decked out in their favorite college gear!

Also on Friday, March 10 we'll hold our **Career Day** for our 4-5 grade Crocs on **tracks 2, 3, and 4.**

## Newsworthy Announcements

### Student Council Book Drive

Families ready your shelves for the book fair by cleaning out any gently used books (K-5th grade) that your children are no longer using. Student Council is hosting a book drive for WAKE Up & Read. They are a local initiative that wants to give all students the chance to read, and puts gently used books in the hands of Wake County students who can't afford to buy books themselves. There will be bins in front of the gym, and the drive will run from February 6th - 17th. Thanks for your support!



*"If you only have  
one smile in you  
give it to the people  
you love."*

*-Maya Angelou*

### New Student Registration for 2017-18 opens Jan. 5, 2017.

Sycamore Creek Elementary will have open enrollment beginning Thursday, January 5th between 9:00 - 2:00 p.m. Hours of enrollment for the week of January 9th - 13th will be 9:00 - 1:00 p.m. Beginning January 17th we will have open enrollment every Tuesday and Thursday between 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.

A child must be 5 years old on or before August 31 of the current school year to attend kindergarten.

### TIPS FOR REGISTERING YOUR CHILD

- You must register at your base school.
- Complete your paperwork ahead of time.
- Children do not need to be present for registration. In fact, it is preferable to make arrangements to register without your children present as schools will be very busy.

For more information about open enrollment or to get materials needed for enrollment, please visit Wake County Schools' website (<http://www.wcpss.net/domain/56>). **You may also contact our school data manager, Karen Prosser at (919) 841-4333 if you have any questions.**

### Human Growth and Development

It is close to that wonderful time in fifth grade when students will learn about **Human Growth and Development**. To help you prepare for these lessons, the fifth grade will be hosting a parent information night in the gymnasium from 5:00 - 6:00 on February 9<sup>th</sup>. There is also a copy of the curriculum in the office. Lessons will taught at the end of March, from March 20 - 23.

### Upcoming Events

#### Student Led Conferences

On March 16<sup>th</sup> from 3:45-6:45, track four will have their student lead conferences. This will be an excellent opportunity to discuss your students' progress with them and witness many of the strategies we utilize in class. In approximately one week, I will be sending out a sign up genius email in which you will be able to sign up for a 30 minute time slot.

#### Field Trip

Our final field trip will be coming up very soon. On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will be embark on a learning experience at the Poe Health Center. This trip will coincide with our Human Growth and Development Lessons. The trip will cost \$5, the form will be in Friday folders this week, and the money will be due on March 3.

#### Middle School Transition

On Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, I sent an email letter from Mr. Zelski regarding transition information to middle school. In a couple weeks, Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, representatives from Pine Hollow will be coming to the school (during specials) to provide students with information that will be a helpful overview of what to expect in middle school.

# Curriculum Update

**Math:** In math this week we completed our study of patterns and graphing patterns, we also completed our assessment on this concept. Be on the lookout for this in our Friday folders this week. After we completed our graphing and numerical table unit we began our study of fractions. As I told the students on Wednesday a very large portion of the remainder of our year will involve fractions. Our first area of study will be recognizing that a fraction is actually the division of the numerator by the denominator. For example if I had a candy bar and I were to share it with two friends I would take the one candy bar and split it in three. The equation would be  $1 \div 3$  and each student would get  $1/3$  of the candy bar. This is a skill that can be somewhat confusing for students in word problem form. For example, if Sally had 7 meters of rope and she wanted to make 11 bracelets how long would each bracelet be? Well you would take the 7 meters of rope and divide it by 11. The equation would be  $7 \div 11$  and each bracelet would be  $7/11$  meters long.

**Reading:** In reading this week we continued our genre study of fantasy. We began to dig deeper into the theme of fantasy stories. We began by discussing the two ways that we could think about theme. One way we could think of theme is as a "bumper stick" or common phrase. For, example, "the early bird gets the worm". However, we could also think of themes in a broader sense, such as friendship, courage, determination, etc. After discussing how to view a theme we looked at several proverbs and fables. We discussed the meaning of common proverbs and students picked a proverb and collaborated with partners to determine its meaning. We also discussed how examining a characters interactions can tell us more about the character by making inferences about the character based on their response. In strategy groups, we read a science fiction fantasy book about two young people learning to work together. We learned quite a bit about these characters by further examining their responses and interactions.

**Writing:** In writing this week, we continued our study of fantasy writing. Students learned about creating fantasy settings through mini lessons and read a louds in class. We also examined the effect of magical objects within stories by reading "*Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*". We then discussed how magical objects can be brought to life within our own fantasy stories.

**Social Studies/Science:** This week in Social Studies, we completed our study of the United States government and historical documents. On Monday, students created unique board games relating to their understanding of the three branches of government. Next, we discussed and reviewed the Bill of Rights. On Friday, students learned about what it means to be a United States citizen. Students were then assigned their final social studies project which will be due on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Students were given the assignment and rubric on their google classroom page. **Also, in the coming weeks we will be starting our ecosystems unit. For this unit we will need clear two liter bottles. We will need quite a few so you may begin sending them in now.**

## 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:

- Understand that fractions are really the division of a numerator by the denominator.

- Use numerical rules and patterns to form ordered pairs and graph the ordered pairs on a coordinate plane.

#### Reading:

- I can determine a theme based on details in a fantasy text.

- I can summarize a fantasy text.

#### Writing:

- I can write narratives to develop imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

#### Social Studies:

- I can understand the structure and function of government in the United States.