



Updates -

This week was a fantastic week, we wrapped up our social studies unit and continued our fantasy reading and writing units. In Friday folders this week, you will find our permission slip for our upcoming field trip on March 23. The money and form are due by March 3. Also, we will need clear 2-liter bottles for our upcoming science ecosystems unit. Our classroom is also in the need of tissues. Thank you in advance for your donations. Lastly, Mr. T will be sending out a sign-up genius for our student led conferences on March 16th.

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

This week our students did very well in our specials and many students have received shout outs from our specialist teachers! In the cafeteria we did not receive our CHOMPliment on Wednesday as several students had difficulty following cafeteria expectations. We will continue to focus on following the teacher assistants' expectations throughout next week.

We currently have 189 CHOMPliments

IMPORTANT DATES



- 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: Dilma



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.

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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!

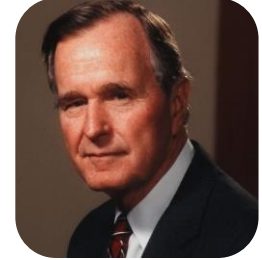
Friday, March 10: *College Day*: Students are encouraged to show up decked out in their favorite college gear!

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!



“Think about every problem, every challenge we face. The solution to each starts with education.”
-President George H.W. Bush

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, there is a copy of the curriculum in the office. Lessons will be taught from March 20 - 23.

Upcoming Events

Student Led Conferences

On March 16th from 3:45-6:45, track four will have their student led conferences. This will be an excellent opportunity to discuss your students' progress with them and witness many of the strategies we utilize in class. On Friday, February 17th I will be sending out a signup 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 23rd, we will be embarking on a learning experience to 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 Thursday, February 16th, I sent another email letter from Mr. Zelski regarding information for middle school. In a couple weeks, Wednesday, March 8th, representatives from Pine Hollow will be coming to the school (during specials) to provide students with information of what to expect in middle school.

Curriculum Update

Math: In math this week we began learning how to add and subtract fractions. On Tuesday students learned how to use benchmarks to estimate the value of each fraction. They used these estimates to add/subtract the fractions too. On Wednesday, we used visual models of a candy bar and garden to add/subtract fractions with unlike denominators. Students were reminded that they need to ensure their fractions have common denominators in order to add/subtract them. On Thursday students continued to practice this skill by using the [area model](#). They received more practice with this on Friday. We will continue to be immersed in fractions for the next several weeks.

Reading: In reading this week we continued digging deeper into the theme of fantasy stories. On Wednesday, we compared two short stories with a common theme by analyzing character conflict/challenge and how it is overcome in the story. This can help students understand how an author develops his/her theme to teach their readers a lesson. We also see this helping them build connections of texts that share common lessons. During Strategy groups students have been given a fantasy novel to read. We will be using this to apply our mini lesson concepts. Students have been given the task of creating their own vocabulary words this week. They are creating a TIPS chart to collect these words. We will continue to explore these words next week using activities that will encourage them to LEARN these words. So that they can use them effectively.

Writing: In writing this week, we continued our study of fantasy writing. Students should have a draft near complete so that we can start applying the mini lessons to enhance the content they have so far. On Wednesday, we discussed the importance of effective dialogue. They used a highlighter to identify their dialogue, so that they can work on making it effective in moving their story along for the reader.

Social Studies/Science: This week we wrapped up our study of government and civics. We studied what it meant to be a citizen and began our final social studies project (study guide for someone taking their immigration exam). This assignment is posted to google classroom along with the rubric. This project will be due on February 24th. On Thursday and Friday, we learned what it takes to craft and pass a bill in the congress.

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.

- I can add and subtract fractions using equivalent fractions and estimations.

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.