

The second week of the third quarter was incredible. I am very proud of the way our students have been CHOMPing in the cafeteria and in specials. Students should continue to make sure their desks, cubbies, notebooks are clean and organized. Also, next week there are several important dates (see the important dates to the right) that you will want to remember. With the book fair, the innovation expo, and the Human Growth and Development parent meeting there will be plenty to look forward to.

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).

IMPORTANT DATES

2/8: Human Growth and Development Parent meeting (Multi-purpose room)

2/8: Book Fair family night

2/9: Science Projects Due

2/9: Early Release

3/8: Student Led Conferences

3/22: Poe Health Center Field Trip



Pick of the Week: Elizabeth

Croc with Character: Allie

CHOMP Update

Students are demonstrating the CHOMP expectations within specials and the cafeteria nicely. I appreciate how well they have been transitioning in the hallway. I'd like for them to continue to work on moving from one subject area to another in the classroom. I'd also like for us to continue showing each other respect with our words and actions.

We Currently have 130 CHOMPliments

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!

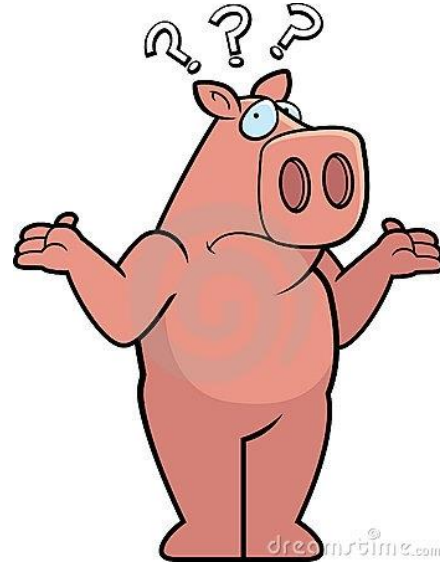
Newsworthy Announcements

HG&D Parent Meeting

February 8, from 5-6 pm

(multi-purpose room)

We have scheduled a parent meeting for new and returning 5th grade families in order to gain insight into the Human Growth and Development unit we teach the students. If you have not had a 5th grader in the past, it is highly encouraged you try to attend this meeting. We will review the curriculum that is provided by Wake County that we will be teaching from. There will be time for all questions to be answered as well.



Clear - 2 Liter Bottles

We are in need of 36-2 Liter bottles for our upcoming science unit. Within this unit, students will be studying ecosystems and will create terrariums and aquariums in these bottles. If you are able to send some in, that would be FANTASTIC. Please make sure they have been rinsed and dried as well as possible. This unit will begin in 2 weeks.

Lead Program

Last week students began a seven week journey through the Lead Program (formerly DARE) with Raleigh Police Officer Doxbeck. Students will learn leadership and social skills. This week's lesson was impactful and related to peer pressure.

Book Fair

Our class will attend the book fair to...

Preview: February 7 at 12:45 pm

Buy: February 12 at 12:20 pm



Be awesome!
Be a BOOK NUT!
 - Dr. Seuss

Curriculum Update

Math: In math this week, we continued our study of the order of operations. Students worked on comparing expressions without solving them. For example, in the following expressions $(8 + 9)$ and $3 \times (8+9)$, we know that the second expression will be three times larger because there is an added step. This was somewhat tricky at first as our natural inclination is to solve an equation. We then moved on to our first assessment on the Order of Operations. This quiz can be found in Friday folders. Next, we moved on to numeric patterns. Students solved problems by forming ordered pairs and graphing the ordered pairs. We will continue working on this skill next week.

Reading: In reading, this week, students continued our study of fantasy writing. This week we read multiple fantasy texts while paying close attention to character interactions and character responses. After reviewing the interactions and responses we then thought about what these interactions and responses could tell us about our character. This skill will become very helpful when we begin examining the theme of a story. Students learned this week that the main character of fantasy stories learn valuable lessons (theme) during the story, which in turn we also learn. In Writing, we began the week crafting detailed overviews of fantastical/magical objects. Students were given sentence and descriptive questions to help them dive into their imagination. Next, we began examining characters of fantasy stories by looking closely at what motivates their behavior. Students then applied this to their story ideas and characters. Students found what motivates their character and what behaviors they exhibit. We also began thinking of our characters strengths and weaknesses. Finally to wrap up the week we begin thinking about settings to our stories.

Social Studies: In social studies, we wrapped up our study of the articles of confederations and moved on to the formation of the constitution. We began by discussing the first and second constitutional congresses paying close attention to the compromises that were made. Next, we moved onto a closer examination of the three branches of government. Students viewed a "Brain Pop" and "Flocabulary" video while taking notes on the subject. We also completed an activity where students had to identify issues that each branch of government would be responsible for. Next, students began a partner project where they began creating a board game about the branches of government.

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:

- use parentheses, brackets and braces to simplify an expression.

Reading:

- Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarizes the text.

Writing:

- Write fantasy writing pieces that integrate the elements of a fantasy

Social Studies:

Understand different forms of government and can explain the beginning documents that were designed after the American Revolution.