



Parents 2016-17
Student Led Conferences
Parents select a time for your student led conference. If there is a time conflict with another class please contact Mr. Tomaszewski at jtomaszewski@wcpss.net
Date: 03/16/2017 (Thu.)
Location: Mr. Tomaszewski's Classroom
Created by: JT Jonathan Tomaszewski

Updates -

This week we began talking about poetry in reading and started our ecosystems unit in science. In Math, students continued working on fractions. Be sure your student continues to practice adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators. If you haven't already please send in your field trip permission form and \$5. Don't forget to sign up for a student led conference time slot [here](#).

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



- 2/24 - Quarter 3 Interims
- 3/6 - Leesville Orchestra Demonstration 11:30 - 12:15
- 3/8 - Middle School Talk (for students during specials)
- 3/10 - Career Day
- 3/16 - Student Led Conferences
- 3/20 - 3/23 - Human Growth and Development Lessons
- 3/23 - Poe Health Center Field Trip



Pick of the Week: Caroline



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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CHOMP Update

Last Friday, Mrs. Faircloth came to observe our class' guidance lesson with Mrs. Hall. As your student may have told you, she was not thrilled with the amount of respect some of our students displayed. She visited our class on Monday morning to reiterate Sycamore Creek's CHOMPing expectations. I would greatly appreciate it if you would have a conversation with your student about how to display respect to all of our educators and staff.

We currently have 191 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

Super Crocs Day!

Tracks 2 & 4 – April 21

The day consists of a 2.5 hour morning session where classes rotate around to various teamwork/competitive games, break for lunch (pizza in the class) to watch a video from the morning session, 5th grade vs. teachers kickball challenge, and to finish the day, some live music in the Courtyard.



“Respect for ourselves guides our morals, respect for others guides our manners.”
-Laurence Sterne

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 continued our study of adding and subtracting fractions. On Monday we looked at adding and subtracting mixed numbers. Student were then shown how to regroup when adding and subtracting a mixed number on Tuesday. For example, when adding $4\frac{3}{4} + 1\frac{3}{4}$ we would get an answer of $5\frac{6}{4}$ however, we would need to regroup and our final answer would be $6\frac{2}{4}$ or $6\frac{1}{2}$. On Wednesday, we continued this skill looking mainly at subtraction. Ungrouping our whole number proved to be more difficult for our students. This skill and finding a common denominator would be a skill to continue to work on with your student. Next week, on either Monday or Tuesday we will have a test on adding and subtracting fractions. In this video you can see the [area model](#) being utilized while adding and subtracting mixed numbers.

Reading: In Reading this week we took a respite from our study of fantasy and began discussing poetry. On Monday, the class and Mr. T created a wordle of all the words that came to mind when we thought of poetry. Next, we reviewed a [check list/strategy list](#) to help us gain insight into what a poem is about and what theme is being presented. We completed several mini lessons as a class and practiced gaining an understanding of several poems. One of the poems we dove deeper into was a William Blake poem, *The Echoing Green*. It was great to see students comprehend what this poem was about. I encourage each of our students to continue to utilize these strategies when reading a fantasy poem. On Thursday and Friday students completed a short reading assessment and practiced the aforementioned poetry strategies on a poem entitled "Stopping".

Writing: In writing this week, we continued our study of fantasy writing. Students are completing their first drafts and this week we conducted mini lessons involving transition words. Students learned that by adding transition words we are able to create seamless transitions within our writing that make for a well written story. We then examined areas within our writing where some of these transition words could be used. We also continued to look at dialogue within our writing.

Social Studies/Science: This week we began our third quarter science unit, ecosystems. Students are very excited to be working with and observing animals within their habitats. On Monday and Tuesday we discussed what ecosystems are and we learned about several terrestrial ecosystems. Students completed several sorts of organism cards and made observations about possible interactions that could occur within an ecosystem. On Wednesday and Thursday, we created our terrarium. Students planted three types of seeds and watered their terrarium. Next, we will begin learning about aquatic ecosystems. Vocabulary for our unit can be located [here](#), I strongly encourage our students to begin studying these terms 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 including mixed numbers using equivalent fractions and estimations.

Reading:

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

- I can summarize a fantasy text or poem.

Writing:

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

Science:

- I can describe how living and non-living organisms depend on one another.