



## Welcome Back!

With already two weeks in and the book fair beginning next week, the science expo Feb. 10th this third quarter is off and running. I hope to see you all at the book fair family night on February 9<sup>th</sup> 5-7 pm. Remember that the human growth and development information session is also on February 9, from 5-6 pm in the gymnasium. Yearbook group and club pictures will take place on February 14 and we will be wearing our class t-shirts. Also on February 14, we will be passing out Valentine's cards. Students are not required to participate, however if you bring something for one student, please be equitable and bring something for each student. See the class list in Friday Folders.

## 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)).

## CHOMP Update

We have had an excellent week. We have earned our CHOMPliment each day in the cafeteria, specials, and we even earned a couple of CHOMPliments from staff members in the hallway. Mr. Tomaszewski had a training on Wednesday and I received a positive note from our substitute. I am very pleased with our Rockin' Crocs this week!

We currently have 172 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**.

## IMPORTANT DATES



- 2/2 - Croc 5 Chorus
- 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



Pick of the Week: Jameson



Croc w/ Character: Ava

### 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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## 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!

### 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.

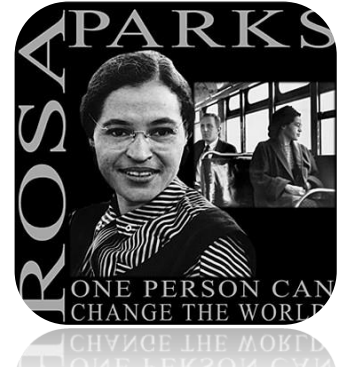
A child must be 5 years old on or before August 31 of the current school year to attend kindergarten.

#### 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.**

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.



*"I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear.*

*-Rosa Parks*

### 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 two weeks, I will be sending out a signup genius email in which you will be able to sign up for a 30 minute time slot.

#### Book Fair

Our Class will preview the book fair on Feb. 8 from 12:45 - 1:00. We will purchase books the following day on Feb. 9 from 12:40 - 1:00.

#### Science Expo

The Sycamore Creek science expo will take place on February 11, 2017. 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to complete a science project. Although, they are not required to partake in the science expo, those that do participate will receive a homework pass and valuable experience. Classroom science projects are due on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Several weeks ago in Friday folder there was a flyer and a rubric for the project. If you happened to have misplaced your flyer or rubric it can be located at our website's homepage ([www.sycamore5th.weebly.com](http://www.sycamore5th.weebly.com)).

# Curriculum Update

**Math:** In Math this week we continued discussing order of operations involving expressions. On Monday we reviewed and wrapped up our mini unit on order of operations and expressions using brackets, braces, and parenthesis. After completing our assessment on Wednesday, we started our next mini unit, using patterns from word problems to form data tables. We then utilized the data tables to form ordered pairs and graphed our collected data. Students have been very confident with this concept, however they need to be sure to take their time and double check the points and use a ruler to form straight and precise lines. For more information about the numerical patterns lessons we have been completing please reference this [parent letter](#). Next week we will begin discussing fractions.

**Reading:** In Reading this week, we continued our new unit related to fantasy. This week we have been examining character interactions within fantasy stories. We listened to several fantasy read aloud picture books while paying close attention to the interactions of the main character. By looking closer at our character's interactions and responses we are able to think about what their responses tell us about the character. When reading "Bad Case of Stripes", the main character Camilla was embarrassed by her appearance and was sensitive to what her peers were saying about her. This evidence from the text allowed us to see that Camilla is self-conscious and concerned about what others think of her. This will lead us into what we will be discussing next, theme. If we pay attention to the main characters we are able to learn from them, this is often the theme or lesson the author is attempting to convey. For example, in the "Bad Case of Stripes", Camilla learned that it is okay to be different. By looking closely at what the character learns we can determine that the theme is "be yourself". Next week we will continue to look at fantasy stories and look more closely at the theme within texts.

**Writing:** In Writing this week, we started to brainstorm on fantasy stories, specifically our main characters and the setting of the story. Students read a story and completed a graphic organizer noting character strengths, weaknesses, behaviors and motivations. Students then began to think about the characters that they envisioned noting the same criteria listed above. To continue to get their creativity flowing, we completed a fantasy prompt on Wednesday. I was really excited to listen to our students' unique ideas. Next, week we will continue our fantasy prewriting.

**Social Studies/Science:** This week in social studies our students completed and presented their Constitution social studies projects. Each groups' ideas were well thought out and expressed their understanding of the article they were assigned. On Wednesday and Thursday we learned about the three branches of government and separation of power. After gaining an understanding of each branches' unique power, students were assigned a short project. In this project students created a board game using trivia from each of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government.

**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:

- I can use parenthesis and brackets in expressions.
- I can write expressions I hear using mathematical symbols and the order of operations.
- 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.