

## Welcome

*To the 2016-2017 School Year*



Rockin' Croc Parents I would like to welcome you to the 2016-2017 school year. I am very excited to be your students' teacher and cannot wait to see the academic and social growth that your student will exhibit over the course of the year. Fifth grade is a pivotal year in our students' education. Students begin to exhibit more maturity and independence. I sincerely look forward to a close partnership with you and your student. 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 ([www.sycamore5th.weebly.com](http://www.sycamore5th.weebly.com)).

## IMPORTANT DATES



8/11: Meet the Teacher  
8/12: Pro Martial Arts Family Night  
8/12: Time for Kids Payment Due (\$7 checks only)  
8/19: Early Release  
8/22: Croc Chorus Registration closes  
8/22-8/26: Auditions for Pieces of Gold from 7:45-8:15  
8/23: Odyssey of the Mind meeting (5:00 pm Media Center)

8/26 Go, Play, Save books/money are due



Mr. T's Pick of the Week:  
To be announced 8-12-16



"Being responsible is a big part of CHOMPing! You can show responsibility by having all your materials prepared and ready for school, by staying on task to get your work done, and it means you're mindful of how your actions impact others.

Responsible crocs are also great at doing chores without being asked, and they help take care of family pets. Think about some of the ways you show responsibility every day!"

*"Intelligence plus character that is the goal of true education." -Martin Luther King Jr.*

## CHOMP Update

The first week of school is a very exciting time and I'm so pleased at how smoothly it has gone for our class. It's like they never left! We've worked as a class to design our 2016-2017 rules. It was really interesting to listen to the discussions of what the kids' value and find to be important in having an orderly, fun and safe environment to work in. Your child was also introduced to a classroom management and Class

DoJo program to encourage positive behaviors. Students will earn rewards as they reach their goals. You should have been given a document with instructions for creating your own account. Please be sure to sign up online, as the Class DoJo is a quick and easy way for you to stay in the loop with regards to your student's behavior. Also, it is a great way for us to communicate with one another.

## Newsworthy Announcements

### Croc 5 Chorus

If your child is interested in being a part of the Croc 5 Chorus please use the link below to register them. Croc 5 Chorus will be on Thursday mornings from 7:30-8:15 in the gym starting on Thursday September 8th. Registration for Croc 5 Chorus will close on August 22nd and you will receive an email with information on Croc 5 Chorus Rehearsals, Concert dates and concert attire. All students in 5th grade are welcome to join Chorus, no audition is required all you have to do is register and show up. [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScEMSAsISp9uqVH5J\\_XcbOQdB6Y6oXDiyPKti2uSCZBnS2Mzg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScEMSAsISp9uqVH5J_XcbOQdB6Y6oXDiyPKti2uSCZBnS2Mzg/viewform)

### Pieces of Gold

Pieces of Gold is a small group of students that audition to be a part of a Wake County Fine Arts performance in downtown Raleigh in March. Elementary, Middle and High Schools from all over Wake County audition and it is a great honor to be selected to be a part of the show. Students must audition to be a part of this group and must be a part of chorus. For auditions students should be prepared to sing the chorus of a song of their choice by themselves. Students will be taught movements to an 8-count and asked to perform it with a small group. Students in Pieces of Gold are expected to be able to sing confidently while doing movements and moving around the stage. Auditions will be held in the music room from 7:30-8:15am the week of August 22nd-26th. Please use the link below to sign your child up for an audition. Please be sure to write down your child's audition day.

<https://docs.google.com/a/wcpss.net/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfsGpuv4bGd4o37LEgLrIGcpu8g0qQlGh4Q6jxq9WA2NAcQ/viewform>



*“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically.”*  
**Martin Luther King Jr.**



## Peter Pan

PETER PAN. Auditions will be held October 31st-November 4th in the music room from 7:30-8:15am. Rehearsals will start in January and the musical will be sometime in April (will have dates when more information is sent out). More information will be given to students in the next month on how to sign up to audition and what they will need to prepare for the audition. Students will be expected to sing part of a song from Peter Pan. In the meantime students can listen to music from Peter Pan Jr. with this youtube video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQvYyMe3EyI>

## LEGO Club

Mrs. Hochbrueckner is looking for several parents to assist her in planning and setting up for Lego Club. If you are able to help, please email her at [mhochbrueckner@wcpss.net](mailto:mhochbrueckner@wcpss.net).

# Curriculum Update

**Math:** We began our first math unit this week by reviewing our multiplication and division skills. Students completed two pre assessments. It is important your child is reviewing their basic multiplication facts periodically in order to maintain a strong knowledge base of this skill. We briefly investigated powers of ten and created a 'short cut' for multiplying by multiples of 10. We rounded out the week with a review of multiplication using partial products. Please ask your child about this.

**Reading:** We spent the week learning about the Daily 5 routine in our class as well as setting up our Café menu board using a variety of mini-lessons. The following skills have been modeled and should be practiced by your child as he or she is completing their nightly reading: check for understanding, re-reading, asking meaningful questions and tuning into interesting words and phrases. We've used post-it notes to help us demonstrate these skills as we've been reading our whole class novel "The Bridge to Terabithia". Students have shown a great interest in this novel, so be sure to ask them about it. We will begin word work next week. More information regarding our 5th grade reading log will be coming soon, so stay tuned!

**Writing:** We began our first writing unit for the year. Students will be learning how to improve their narrative writing skills through several Empowering Writer's techniques. I will be modeling this with our Amusement Park theme. By the end of the quarter, students will create a narrative essay that will be used as their 1st quarter writing sample.

**Science:** This week the students began their study on Motion and Design. We began the week by using "Kinects" pieces to design a car that would travel 150 cm. Each group was able to pass the design challenge. Next, students learned the importance of technical drawings and blue prints. Students created a profile and aerial view of their design challenge car. We then created a car using a technical drawing. We will be putting this car into motion in the coming days using a pulley system.

## 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:

- Fluently multiply multi-digit whole numbers using the standard algorithm
- Explain patterns in the number of zeros of the product when multiplying a number by powers of 10.
- Recognize that in a multi-digit number, a digit in one place represents 10 times as much as it represents in the place to its right and 1/10 of what it represents in the place to the left.

Reading: Use retell strategies to demonstrate my understanding of a text.

Science: Understand Motion and force of objects