



Parents, it was great seeing you all at our open house last night. It was a pleasure meeting you all and getting to know you. I look forward to partnering with you over the course of the year. I know that we went over a lot of important details and information and if you need to review the slides they are available here and on our website. As always if you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me at [jtomaszewski@wcpss.net](mailto:jtomaszewski@wcpss.net) or on class dojo. Please pay attention to our important dates to the right and all of the newsworthy announcements below. If you have not already done so, please be sure to send in your DC intent half sheet ASAP and be sure to register to volunteer.



To stay up to date be sure to read each issue of the "Rockin' Croc Times."

## IMPORTANT DATES

August 8<sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 7:00 – Open House

August 9<sup>th</sup> – AIG Parent Nominations due – see Newsworthy Announcements page 2

August 16<sup>th</sup> – DC Intent Form – Half sheet found in Friday folder

August 27<sup>th</sup> – Fall Pictures 10:00

August 28<sup>th</sup> – Ident - A – Kid pictures

August 30<sup>th</sup> – Battle of the Books deadline to sign up – see Newsworthy Announcements page 2

August 30<sup>th</sup> – Odyssey of the Mind signup deadline – see Newsworthy Announcements page 2.

Pick of the Week: Jonas (8/9/19)

## CHOMP Update

Our students have had a great week CHOMPing in specials, the cafeteria, and in the hallway. Our students earn DoJo points each time they earn a CHOMPliment and also for CHOMPing in the hall. I reiterated the importance of CHOMPing this week for safety reasons and to be role models for the younger students in the school.

CHOMPliments: We currently have 19 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: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4ca5ac2daafc1-august>

Thank you for your support. Please reach out if you have any questions or suggestions!

## Newsworthy Announcements

### Good Morning Sycamore

Any track 4 5th grade student who is interested in being selected to be an anchor for Good Morning Sycamore (our morning student news program) at any point during the 2019-2020 school year, must fill out [this form](#) by Sunday, August 11 at 8pm. No other responses will be accepted after that time. Students (not parents) must fill out the first section, and a parent/guardian must fill out the second section. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Casey Cousins

### Battle of the Books

I am excited to announce that this year we will be having a Sycamore Creek Elementary Battle of the Books for fourth and fifth grade. The goal of Battle of the Books is to support students in their love and discovery for reading by introducing them to quality literature. Students who choose to participate in Battle of the Books create a team of 3 to 4 students. All members of the team should be in the same grade and on the same track. The members then read a selection of books. In the spring, the teams will battle against each other in a bracket style competition on their knowledge of the books. Students interested in participating need to complete the registration form below and return it by August 30th.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SX30AuWeugzHvrkL53-QRdiLx9o-6KqEQManZBk9utA/edit?usp=sharing>

### Volunteer Registration

We hope you will consider being a volunteer at school this year in the classroom or as a field trip chaperone. You must register as a volunteer EVERY YEAR. The volunteer system will be open daily for Reactivation/registration. Volunteers and volunteer applicants should direct their questions to the front office.

***You must register as a volunteer to chaperone the Washington DC field trip.***

### Odyssey of the Mind

Odyssey of the Mind (OM) is an extracurricular educational program run by families outside of school that focuses on student teamwork through creative problem-solving opportunities. Team members think "outside of the box" and apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. Teams then bring their solutions to a local competition in early March, with winning teams next competing at the state and potentially world levels. Parents and students interested in learning more about Odyssey of the Mind are invited to an interest meeting on Thursday, August 15th at 5:00 in the Media Center. Students interested in participating need complete the registration form below and return it by August 30th.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IQsNz0tNLX3iOOD2oPtbSCR1bvvxEBIEB794G8k1XIU/edit?usp=sharing>

### Go Play Save book sales

Go Play Save books went home last week for students to sell. \$15 from each book sale will go towards the *students'* DC field trip. Go Play Save book sales will end August 22. If paying by check, please make your checks payable to SCES PTA. If placing an online order, school code SCES2020 needs to be used.

### AIG Parent Nominations

Parents/Guardians of 4th or 5th grade students may nominate their child to be considered for evaluation for the Academically or Intellectually Gifted Program (AIG). If you would like your child to be considered for fall testing, please send your nomination in **by August 9th**. All nominations must be in writing (note or email) and may be returned via your child's classroom teacher or directly to Mrs. Estrela (Tracks 3 and 4). When you request an evaluation, please include your child's name, grade, track, and homeroom teacher. Any questions can be sent to [aestrela@wcpss.net](mailto:aestrela@wcpss.net). Thank you!

# Curriculum Update

**Math:** In math this week, our students continued our study of graphing, collecting data, and forming ordered pairs. We began the week by taking part in a stem challenge in which students followed the scientific process to determine if adding paperclips to paper airplane increased or decreased the distance the plane traveled. Students worked with partners to graph their collected their data on a line graph. Next, we spent the next few days graphing multiple lines on the same graph. Students do best with this task if they graph one data table at a time. Next week, we will continue this skill and we will take our first assessment.

**Reading:** This week in reading we continued our first 5th grade EL module relating to human rights and our complex text, “Esperanza Rising”. This week students were introduced to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. After reading a chapter of “Esperanza Rising” we discussed the plot structure (rising action, climax, resolution, etc.) and we also examined which human rights were threatened in each chapter. After determining the rights that were threatened we studied the human right in greater detail and found the main idea and supporting detail of each article. Students then crafted a summary of the human right that was threatened and described how that right was endangered.

**Social Studies/Science:** In social studies this week we continued our study of the United States government. We specifically examined the unique responsibilities of each branch of government and we discussed checks and balances and how the branches’ powers are balances. We also completed a simulation of the branches of government on Thursday.

## 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 collect data, form ordered pairs, and represent the collected data on a line graph.

#### Reading:

I can quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text states explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

#### Social Studies:

I can explain how ideas of various governments (Roman, Greek, Iroquois, and British) influenced the development of the United States government.