

Mr. T's Rockin' Crocs



"Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think" - Einstein

In Friday Folders this week:

Student Work
Parent/ Student Handbook
Family Night Flier
Scholastic News



Announcements

DC PAYMENT

Parents thank you for your quick response when returning your students Washington DC field trip payment. Please be aware that checks are made out to Sycamore Creek Elementary. Also, be mindful that the last day to turn in field trip money is September 15th.

Conferences

A parent teacher conference sign-up genius was sent out on Tuesday of last week. The link for the sign up genius is currently on the homepage of our class website or can be accessed here. If you need any assistance whatsoever signing up or scheduling a conference please feel free to contact me at jtomaszewski@wcpss.net.

Service Project

I feel that as your student's teacher it is important to instill a quality of giving and helping individuals that may be less fortunate. For our first quarter service project we will be collecting non-perishable food items for my former school's (Forest Pines Drive Elementary) backpack buddy program. I encourage all of you to take part in this wonderful program by signing up [here](#) and thank you to all of you that have donated materials for our quarter one service project already.

Important Dates

- 9/15 – Field Trip Payment Due
- 9/15 – Family Night – Jason Deli
- 9/16 – Scholastic Book Orders due
- 9/24 – Croc 5 Chorus

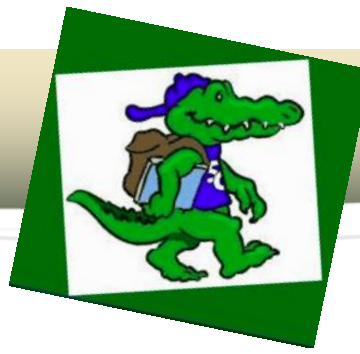
Wish List

Empty Clear 2 – Liter Bottles

PBIS

Everyone appreciates a little R-E-S-P-E-C-T! You show respect toward someone when you are kind, you consider the other person's point of view, and when you're mindful of how your actions impact others. Basically, you treat others the way you would like to be treated- That's the Golden Rule! You can show respect toward your teachers, parents, other students, even toward the environment. Our crocs do a great job of showing respect toward one another, and that's what makes Sycamore Creek such a great place to be!

Curriculum Update



Math – In Math this week we began discussing the concept of adding and subtracting decimals. Students first began adding decimals on Tuesday using hundreds grids and base ten pieces. On Wednesday, we continued using base ten pieces and grids to subtract decimals. Our students excelled at using the grids and the grids provided a concrete model for the students to visualize how adding and subtracting of decimals occurs. On Thursday and Friday students utilized another concrete model, a number line, to add and subtract decimals. Next week, students will continue adding and subtracting decimals and complete a project related to purchasing items for a grocery excursion. This [video](#) illustrates the methods we have been utilizing in class. **Acceleration** – We will soon be discussing 2-D figures. Begin reviewing attributes and terms with your students [here](#). Also review this parent [document](#) provided by WCPSS.

Social Studies – In Social Studies this week we continued discussing the area of economics. We began this week by discussing division of labor and specialization. Students participated in an assembly line by acting as if they worked in a colored pencil factory. Each student in the assembly line had a specialized role. We then discussed the pros and cons of the assembly line and division of labor. On Wednesday, we read and discussed three very different types of economy. Specifically, we read about market economies, command economies, and traditional economies. On Thursday and Friday, students participated in each of the aforementioned economies by creating goods using specific guidelines related to each type of economy. ***Acceleration** – Next week we will be focusing on interdependence and how countries rely on one another for goods and services.

Reading – In reading this week, we have continued our study of characters. Specifically we spent this week looking at specific characters from our stories and how they interact with other characters in the story. To further our study of character interactions we utilized the book “Tiger Rising”. In this story, Rob the main character, is faced with many difficult trials including bullies, a deceased mother, and other challenges. This story provides an excellent model for discussing characters. We took this information from our story and wrote about our thinking regarding the characters’ interactions on a graphic organizer. By further examining what are characters did and said and how they interacted with other characters we are able to see the larger picture of the story. Discuss this story with your student and ask them about the their thinking regarding the many characters and how they interacted. This was also an area that we focused on in our reading and strategy groups. **Acceleration** – Review this concept map created with Prezi (located [here](#)) to see the overview of our unit on theme. By reviewing and discussing this concept map with your student you will see the larger picture of what we are accomplishing in Language Arts.

Writing - In writing we began the week by continuing to work on our narrative baseline assessment. Students were also introduced to their next thematic unit (magic) by reading and annotating an exemplary writing on “is it magic or science”. Having exposure to exemplary writing helps students visualize the structure and craft that is used to create an effective writing piece. We continued to practice expository brainstorming techniques with a “pick list and choose” activity on Thursday.

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 our student by discussing the following statements.

Math

I can add and subtract decimals using concrete models.

Reading

Discuss how characters respond to challenges and change throughout the story.

Determine the theme using details from a literary text.

Social Studies

Understand that personal choices result in benefits or consequences.

CHOMP Update!

We are continuing to earn CHOMPliments this week. Our current total is 69 and counting. Our chomping in the hall has definitely improved this week. Mr. Hudson even awarded our class with a CHOMPliment on Wednesday while walking to the media center. Students are continuing to self-monitor their behavior in the hallway and during our daily 5 rotations. I am pleased with our students' honesty and willingness to act properly in the hallway and throughout the building.

Croc with Character!

Responsibility



Maddie J.

Mr. T's Pick of the Week

September 4 - Abby

September 11 - Andrew M.

