

Mr. T's Rockin' Crocs



"Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and diligence."

Abigail Adams

In Friday Folders this week:
Fluency Sheet
Math Assessment
Science Assessment



Announcements

Service project

Rockin' Croc parents, on December 18th we will be completing our second quarter service project. The charity we will be supporting is called 'Note in the Pocket' and was started by a Wake County teacher. Prior to the 18th we will be collecting gently used winter clothing for individuals in our area that are in need. Mrs. Bartsch sent an email earlier this week of items that are needed for the "Note in the Pocket" program. If you have any questions please send myself or Mrs. Bartsch an email.

Mark your Calendars!

Tacky Holiday Sweater Day

On Friday, December 18th, we will have our next theme day at school. Students and staff are encouraged to wear a "tacky" holiday sweater to celebrate the holiday season.

Student Led Conferences

The date for student led conferences will be Tuesday, March 15th.

Science Expo

This year our Science Expo will be held on Saturday, February 13, 2016. Coming up on Friday, December 11th we will be having a kick-off assembly to get everyone excited about the Expo.

Important Dates

12/11 – Science Expo Assembly

12/18 – End of Quarter 2 / Report Cards / Early Release / Tacky Holiday Sweater Day!

12/18 – 2nd Quarter Service Project

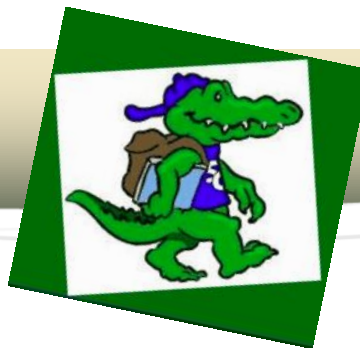
1/25 – 1st day of Quarter 3

1/29 – School Spelling Bee

PBIS *Kindness*

Have you ever wondered what makes Sycamore Creek such a great school? If you think about it, it all starts with the many ways that our crocs show each other our character trait of the month: Kindness. Our crocs show kindness to each other all the time by helping friends in need, being mindful of how their actions impact others, and by cooperating and working well together. Try to think of some of the different ways you show kindness.

Curriculum Update



Math: This week we have continued to focus on our study of multiplying decimals. On Monday we began by completing real world word problems in small groups. On Tuesday, we continued working on multiplication by working in math rotations. Students were encouraged to utilize various strategies that we have discussed in class. On Wednesday, students took their quiz on multiplication of decimals. To finish the week, on Thursday and Friday, we began learning about dividing whole numbers by decimals. See the following videos for further information about dividing whole numbers by decimals

1. [Base Ten Blocks Decimal Division](#)
2. [Dividing by Decimals with grids](#)

Reading: This week in reading we have spent a great deal of time reading American Revolution non-fiction passages. When reading these passages we have been utilizing our [track marks](#) to annotate and gain a deeper understanding of the content. After reviewing and annotating our thoughts on the passages we identified the big idea (main idea) and supporting details that related to the main idea. Next, we began creating summaries with the information we collected from the articles. In reading groups this week, we continued examining text structures. Students read multiple passages and identified the text structures that were used by the authors. We also discussed the reasons the author chose to write their article in the chosen text structure. Also in our reading groups, we compared and contrasted the text structures that were utilized by the authors. Next week, we will begin reading multiple texts relating to the same topic and discussing the varying points of the view they represent.

Writing: This week in writing, students continued collecting evidence for their independent opinion writing piece. After collecting their evidence, students created a graphic organizer in their writing notebook that illustrated their claim, reasons, and evidence that supported their claim. On Tuesday and Wednesday, students began drafting and revising their paragraphs. We also, discussed using counterclaims within our writing. By using counterclaims students are able to recognize the opposite side's view and strengthen their own writing. Be sure to discuss your student's writing with them and have them show you the progress they have been making. The rubric for the opinion writing piece can be accessed on our website by clicking [here](#).

Science: In science this week, we completed our final weather mini unit. Students learned that, as a result of our Earth's rotation, winds curve (Coriolis Effect) and areas between latitude lines create small convection cells. These smaller convection currents create constant wind above our atmosphere known as global winds. It is very important that students are aware that the prevailing westerlies strongly influence the weather movement in most of the US and Canada. On Wednesday and Thursday we discussed how the air above water and land heat differently which create pressure difference, thus creating a land and sea breeze. It is very important your child can explain each of these. On Friday, we wrapped up with the three types of heat transfer: convection, radiation and conduction. You can find information about this in your child's binder. They will take their final text next week. Please remind them to study for this.

Chomp Update: This week we have been very successful gaining our CHOMPliments in specials and in the cafeteria. We do need to be sure that students wear their tennis shoes when we have PE. In the hallway students were somewhat "chatty" in the hallway. As the holidays continue to approach I want our students to remain focused and aware that we must continue to CHOMP throughout the school.

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:

Multiply and Divide decimal numbers to the hundredths place using concrete models (grids and number lines) and relate the strategy to a written method and explain the reasoning used.

Reading:

Quote accurately when explaining a non-fiction text.

Compare and contrast the overall structure of events, ideas, concepts or information in two or more texts.

Science:

Explain how factors such as gravity, friction, and change in mass affect the motion of objects. Infer the motion of objects in terms of how far they travel in a certain amount of time and the direction in which they travel.

Compare the weight of an object to the sum of the weight of its parts before and after an interaction.

 Croc with Character! 

Kindness



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Mr. T's Pick of the Week

October 30 - Daniel

November 6 - Jade

November 20 - Xander

December 4 - Camille