

Mr. T's Rockin' Crocs



"The most influential of all educational factors is the conversation in a child's home."

William Temple

In Friday Folders this week:

Newsletter
Homework
CASE 21 Scores
Math Quiz
Science Vocab Practice



Announcements

Science Projects

Just a friendly reminder that the Science Projects are due Next Friday, February 12, 2016.

[Rubric found here.](#)

Rubik's Club

Mrs. Hochbrueckner is looking forward to starting Rubik's Cube Club with the fifth graders during 4th quarter. However, she needs a few parent volunteers to come help her manage groups. The club will meet on Tuesdays from 3:15- 4:15. You do not need to be able to solve the Rubik's cube in order to help with the club. If you are interested in helping, please email her at mhochbrueckner@wcpss.net

Food Drive - Track 4, February 8-12

Student Council is sponsoring a food drive to benefit "Backpack Buddies" at Leesville Elementary. With the food donated by Sycamore folks last year, we helped grow the program at Leesville by over 20 families! Please consider helping those in need, right in our community! Letters coming home in Friday Folders soon with more details about the types of food donations needed, and a friendly competition we'll have between grade levels!

Raleigh Parks and Recreation After School Care 2016-2017

The City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department will be offering the After School X-Press program at Sycamore Creek Elementary School for the 2016-2017 school year. Registration for the After School program begins on Monday, March 14th, 2016 at 7:00am. Registration brochures are now available in the Sycamore Creek Elementary School main office.

Visit parks.raleighnc.gov and search "Sycamore Creek" for more information concerning the program, registration and a link to the registration brochure. Call the Youth Programs office at 919-996-6165 with any questions.

Poe Center Field Trip

Please be sure to send back your field trip form for our field trip forms to the Poe Center. Students will be learning about the various body systems we will be learning about during the 3rd and 4th quarter. Track 4 will be going to the Poe Center on March 24th. There is not a cost for this field trip.

Human Growth and Development

Parents it is that wonderful time of 5th grade . . . Human Growth and Development! The Parent information session discussing our curriculum will take place on February 18 at 5:00. At this session you will receive an overview of the curriculum your students will be learning. The teacher curriculum is currently in the office if you wish to stop by and view the information. The Human Growth and Development unit will be taught at Sycamore Creek from 3/18 - 3/23.

PBIS

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 of the ways you show integrity.

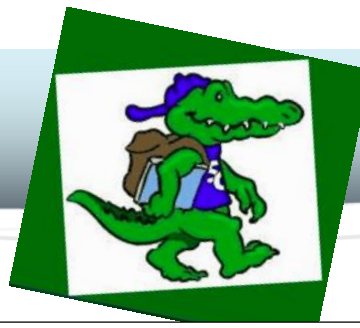
Important Dates

2/9 – 2/17 - Book Fair
2/11 – Croc 5 Chorus
2/11 – Book Fair Family Night 5-7 pm
2/12 – Early Release;
2/12 - Science Projects Due
2/13 – Science Expo
2/18 – HG&D Parent Meeting 5 pm
2/19 - Club Picture Day
2/26 – Interims
4/22 – Super Crocs Day

Book Fair

Each individual class has a book fair preview date and purchase date. Our individual dates and times are:

Class Preview - 2-10-2016 from 11:15 – 11:30
Class Purchase – 2-15-2016 from 12:20 – 12:40



Curriculum Update

Math - In Math this week we continued to discuss numerical expressions. However, our focus this week related more so on creating input and output tables, which we then utilized to create ordered pairs. Next, we began graphing the information stored within our tables. We examined several real world scenarios that challenged our students. One such scenario had students review and select potential merchants for an upcoming spring carnival. Students utilized the companies' information to graph and compare the differing costs. On Thursday, we continued to review patterns and on Friday students took a short quiz.

Last Friday, we took a short quiz displaying our understanding of the order of operations. Be on the lookout for this in this week's Friday folder.

Check out this parent [document](#) to gain more information about our upcoming numerical expressions and patterns lessons.

Reading - In Reading this week we continued studying the fantasy genre. However, this week we began discussing and describing how characters respond to events and situations they face. Students listened to a read aloud on Edmodo of the popular fantasy picture book "A Bad Case of Stripes". Students then responded to the Edmodo thread by describing and discussing events and interactions that occurred within the story. By examining how characters respond to events we are able to understand our characters greater. This week in small groups we focused our attention on learning about theme. We discovered that themes are lessons or messages that an author wants to convey usually utilizing the main characters to teach us the lesson. We also continued reading the novel, "Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh". This week we read chapters 3-6 and dove deeper into the story discovering more information about our main characters. Be sure to continue to talk to your students about this new fantastical journey that we are taking as a class!

Writing - In Writing, just as in reading, we continued writing fantasy stories. Students brainstormed different types of elements that are found in fantasy writing. Students then selected elements from the compiled list to begin drafting short summaries of their fantasy. For example, a student may have wrote a short summary about a mermaid that found an evil witch's magical ring, which in turn caused her sister to be kidnapped by the evil witch. We then began elaborating these short plot sentences into more elaborate and detailed paragraphs. We will continue to work on our drafting next week.

Science - In Science this week we continued our new unit, Ecosystems. We watered our terrariums each day and were amazed by the amount of growth that we witnessed on Monday. By the time of this typing, each type of seed (mustard plant, alfalfa, and rye grass) have all germinated and sprouted. We also reviewed the numerous types of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, noting and comparing the differences in producers and consumers. On Wednesday, we reviewed more detailed information about the process of photosynthesis. On Thursday and Friday we looked further at the energy transfer between organisms by discussing food chains. Your student can play various food chain games [here](#) and our ecosystems vocabulary is available in its entirety [here](#).

CHOMPliment - Students did an excellent job of earning CHOMPliment cards in the cafeteria and during specials this week. However, we did not earn a single CHOMPliment in the hallway this week. Students were somewhat chatty in the hall and I look for an all-around great week of CHOMPing next week!



CHOMPliment Total



160

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:

Use numerical rules and patterns to form ordered pairs and can graph the ordered pairs on a graph.

Reading:

I can explain how a series of chapters, scenes of stanzas fit together to create a larger literary text.

Writing:

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

Science:

Understand the interdependence of plants and animals and their ecosystems.

Explain how some materials change as a result of heating and cooling.



Croc with Character!

Self Discipline



Andrew M.



Mr. T's Pick of the Week

January 29 - Miah

February 5 - Madi