

# Mr. T's Rockin' Crocs



*"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education."  
Martin Luther King, Jr*

## In Friday Folders this week:

Book Fair Flier  
After School Flier  
Pine Hollow Middle School Flier  
Newsletter  
Homework  
Field Trip Form  
Counselor Newsletter  
Science Madness Flier



## Announcements

### Poe Center Field Trip

Please be sure to check your Friday folder 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 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Track 4 will be going to the Poe Center on March 24<sup>th</sup>. There is not a cost for this field trip.

### Human Growth and Development

Parents it is that wonderful time of 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Pine Hollow Middle School Information Night

Come and meet the Principal of Pine Hollow Middle School next Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 7 at Sycamore Creek Elementary School.

### Book Fair

It's the 2016 Feeling Groovy Book Fair at Sycamore Creek Elementary School. The book fair will take place from February 9 - 17<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for family night from 5-7 pm on Thursday, February 11.

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

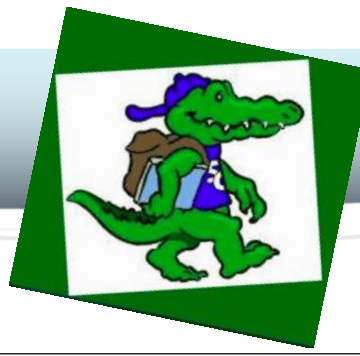
## PBIS Kindness

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.

## Important Dates

1/29 - School Spelling Bee  
2/1 - Bird Guy Dave Cultural Arts Assembly  
2/4 - Croc 5 Chorus  
2/4 - Pine Hollow Middle School Night 6pm  
At Sycamore Creek Elementary  
2/9 - 2/17 - Book Fair  
2/11 - Croc 5 Chorus  
2/11 - Book Fair Family Night 5-7 pm  
2/12 - Early Release; 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

# Curriculum Update



Math - In Math this week we continued to discuss numerical expressions, equations, and the order of operations. On Tuesday, students created "graffiti" art with words and phrases to display their understanding of the order of operations. On Wednesday, students played an expression matching game in which students reviewed the word form and numerical form of various equations. We then compared and contrasted similar equations without solving the equations. On Thursday, we compared and contrasted more equations in small groups and then discussed our findings using a method called the traveling file. This method allows students to critique or confirm other groups' findings and then pass the file to another group. On Friday, we took a short quiz displaying our understanding of the order of operations. Be on the lookout for this in next 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 began studying a new genre, fantasy. Students were very excited to begin this unit. We began the week by reading various fantasy picture books noting things that could happen in real life and things that could not happen in real life. Next, we began reading the novel, "*Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh*". This book will be utilized in whole class lessons and literature circles throughout the third quarter. On Thursday, we reviewed possible characteristics of fantasy stories, including the unique plots, settings, characters, and lessons that make fantasies unique. Then we read an excerpt of the story "*Peter and Wendy*" as a class, highlighting the elements that made the story fantasy. Be sure to ask your students about this new fantastical journey that we are taking as a class!

Writing - In Writing, just as in reading we began discussing writing fantasy stories. Students previewed various fantasy picture books on Wednesday getting an idea of the elements present within the fantasy genre. On Thursday and Friday, students began drafting stories using wordless picture books. Students utilized an organizational framework and graphic organizer to begin putting words to our wordless fantasy picture books. Students worked in small groups and individually to let their imagination come to life.

Science - In Science this week we began our new unit, Ecosystems. We began on Wednesday by creating terrariums using 2 - liter bottles and planting three types of seeds. These terrariums will hold various organisms including, isopods, crickets, mustard plants, rye grass, and alfalfa plants. We also observed an ecosystem illustration and discussed how ecosystems are interconnected because they rely on numerous living and nonliving things.

CHOMPliment - With the extended break/track out and snow days I was expecting our class to have a little bit harder of a time coming back and getting into the swing of our daily school schedule. At times I was right, students needed some added guidance and redirection when walking in the halls and focusing during class lessons. If you could talk to your student about school CHOMPing expectations as I have, it would greatly appreciated!

 CHOMPliment Total 

**150**

## 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 use parentheses and brackets in expressions.

I can write expressions I hear using mathematic symbols and the order of operations.

### 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

October 30 - Daniel

November 6 - Jade

November 20 - Xander

December 4 - Camille

December 11 - Jordan

January 29 - ??????