

Mr. T's Rockin' Crocs



“The important thing is not to stop questioning.” - Albert Einstein

In Friday Folders this week!

Wake County Volunteer Information

Weather Guidelines for Structured Play

PTA Welcome Letter



Announcements

Washington DC Field Trip

Thank you so much for getting your “Intent to Attend” our Washington, DC field trip form turned in this week. We are in the process of determining the final cost of this trip. Money earned for the sale of the GO PLAY SAVE book will benefit your child by decreasing the amount of the final cost of this trip. We are encouraging everyone child try to sell at least ONE BOOK. For every book sold your child will earn \$15 to put towards the final cost of his/her trip.

Chaperones

Please make sure you have made time to complete the volunteer registration information. This can be done on Mondays in our media center.

ART and Music Announcements

In your child's Friday folder you will find several important documents from our art and music department. Mrs. Rickman has sent out information regarding Pieces of Gold Auditions, the Croc 5 Chorus audition sheet, and Annie Audition forms. If your child is interested in participating in any of these wonderful activities, please be sure they fill out the forms and return them next week.

Mrs. Mountz has also sent home information on several items she is in need of this school year. If you are able to donate any of the items, she would greatly appreciate it

Important Dates

8/6: Open House
5:30-7:00pm

8/7: Student Council
Applications due

8/26: School Pics

8/27: Ident-a-Kid

PBIS

"Being responsible is a big part of CHOMPing! You can show responsibility by having all your materials *prepared* and ready for school, by staying *on task* to get your work done, and it means you're *mindful* of how your actions impact others. Responsible crocs are also great at doing chores without being asked, and they help take care of family pets. Think about some of the ways you show responsibility every day!"

Curriculum Update

Math: This week's math focus was all about multiplication. To begin this unit, your child was given a baseline timed multiplication test. I was pleased with the precision that most of our Rockin' Crocs demonstrated with this 'assessment.' On Tuesday, the class was introduced to powers of ten and created a "rule" that could be used when multiplying by zeros. Be sure to ask your child to explain his/her understanding of this topic to you. Following our base ten lessons, the students had the opportunity to put their knowledge to good use practicing the area model for multiplication. By using expanded notation, students could find the partial products and then add their totals to determine the final answer to a multiplication problem. On Thursday, the students moved into 3x2 digit multiplication by using the standard algorithm and the area model. The students then demonstrated how these two strategies connect.



Language Arts: At the beginning of the week, we spent time discussing stamina and its importance during our Daily 5 time. I also gave your child a baseline-spelling test in order for us to begin the *Words Their Way* program. After I analyze the results, students will be placed in groups and be given specific words lists to study each week. This week every child was given the same word list along with a vocabulary word work contract. Be sure to check this out if you haven't already. Beginning next week, word work activities will be turned in every Friday. Our reading mini-lessons focused on practicing strategies to help your child better understand the text that they are reading. Students were given a document with question stems and statements that they can use to "stop" and think about their reading as they are working on an independent text. Another important strategy to help your child demonstrate their retelling is to focus on "who" and "what" questions. Please encourage your child to be doing this as they read. You can even use the question stems to help your child dig deeper with their text. In addition to these mini lessons, your child reviewed 3 of the daily 5 rotations: read to self, work on writing, and word work. Additionally, we began our Beginning of Year DORF testing. Once every student has been tested, the data will be analyzed in order to create strategy groups.

Science: We began our motion and design unit on Wednesday with a design challenge involving designing a vehicle using "Kinects" pieces. Students designed a vehicle to travel 150 cm on a small inclined plan (aka a ramp). Students worked very well in their groups and each group had a very unique design. On Thursday, we discussed the importance of technical drawings when designing our vehicles. Throughout the quarter, we will utilize our "Kinects" pieces to build various designs to meet various challenges. On Friday, we are building a vehicle based upon a technical drawing. This car will be utilized in a lesson using strings and pulleys to place our cars into motion. We will measure the distance and time the vehicle travels. This will allow students to develop a beginning understanding of the measurement of speed.

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:

- Fluently multiply multi-digit whole numbers using the standard algorithm
- Explain patterns in the number of zeros of the product when multiplying a number by powers of 10.
- Recognize that in a multi-digit number, a digit in one place represents 10 times as much as it represents in the place to its right and 1/10 of what it represents in the place to the left.

Reading:

Use retell strategies to demonstrate my understanding of a text.

Science:

Understand Motion and force of objects

*"The best teachers
are those who show
you where to look
but don't tell you
what to see."*

-- Alexandra K.

**CHOMP Update!**

The first week of school is a very exciting time and I'm so pleased at how smoothly it has gone for our class. It's like they never left! We've worked as a class to design our 2015-2016 rules. It was really interesting to listen to the discussions of what the kids' value and find to be important in having an orderly, fun and safe environment to work in. Your child was also introduced to a classroom management and Class DoJo program to encourage positive behaviors. Students will earn rewards as they reach their goals. You should have been given a document with instructions for creating your own account. Please be sure to sign up online, as the Class DoJo is a quick and easy way for you to stay in the loop with regards to your student's behavior. Also, it is a great way for us to communicate with one another.