all the news that fits September 4, 2015

Mr. T's Rockin' Crocs



"If you're not willing to learn no one can help you. If you're determined to learn no one can stop you."

In Friday Folders this week:

Student Work Scholastic Book Order Data Base Form



Announcements

Washington DC Field Trip CHAPERONES

If you are planning to chaperone the Washington, DC field trip, please make time to complete the volunteer registation form online at a computer in the media center. You can do this ANY day of the week UNTIL OCTOBER. At that time, the opportunity to register will only be available on Mondays. Please email me if you have any questions.

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 this 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 itomaszewski@wcpss.net.

Acceleration

Acceleration is a teaching concept in which concepts and content are presented early for the students before being covered in class lessons. This can be done in small groups or individually or even by you the parent. Be on the lookout for acceleration tips throughout the curriculum updates.

Important Dates

9/4 – Rock Star Day Early Release

9/7- Labor Day – No School

9/9 – Croc 4 Chorus

9/15 – Field Trip Payment Due

Wish List

Clipboards

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 continued our focus on decimals. We specifically began looking at rounding decimals to the nearest whole number, tenth, and hundredth. We utilized number lines and grids to help us visualize the rounding of decimals. When students are assessed they should be able to display their full understanding of the place value system by demonstrating rounding using various methods. Students also worked in small groups completing rounding centers and we also played rounding decimal bingo. *Acceleration – we will soon be adding and subtracting decimals. One area students need to focus on when adding and subtracting decimals is lining up their problem with the decimal point and the appropriate place value. One way this can be done is utilizing graph paper. Another area that we will soon be discussing is geometry. Begin reviewing attributes and terms with your students here.

Social Studies – In Social Studies this week we began discussing the area of economics. Students have learned about budgeting and how personal purchasing decisions can result in benefits and consequences related to spending and saving. Students looked at sample budgets and created their own budgets as if they were a President, Governor or Mayor. Here are some sample questions to discuss with your student about economics. How do economies shape a nation? How do personal decisions about finances shape our lives? ***Acceleration** – Discuss with your students the concepts of supply and demand. How does supply and demand effect the cost of an item?

Reading – In reading this week, we have continued our study of characters. We began the week reading a Gary Paulsen book titled "Lawnboy". As we read the story we stopped reading periodically to ask ourselves what our character thought, said, and did. After reviewing this information we began to see a clearer picture of our character's traits. Next, we then discussed our understanding of character traits by clarifying the difference of a character's feelings and qualities of our characters that can be defined as a character trait. For example, a character may be happy that they received a new dog, but this is what they are feeling. The same character may exhibit the quality of hard working because they worked 2 hours after school each night to earn their dog.

Writing: In writing this week, we worked on creating a letter to a friend persuading them to ride a specific roller coaster or ride at an amusement park. Next, we examined and utilized sentence starters and "yes, but" statements to further convince our reader. Our students also took a narrative baseline assessment to assess narrative writing techniques they had previously learned.

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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.

<u>Math</u>

I can use place value understanding to round decimals to any place.

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 65 and counting. One area that we have been stressing to improve this week is CHOMPING in the hallway. To help improve our hallway behavior students will have the opportunity to earn dojo points in the hallway. Students will monitor themselves and inform Mr. T if they deserve dojo points for their behavior in the hall. We will also do the same with daily 5 independent sessions. Students will have the opportunity to inform Mr. T if they were on task for all of their daily 5 or most of their daily five time. Mr. T will of course be giving assistance with their individual monitoring.

Croc with Character!

Responsibility



Maddie J.

Mr. T's Pick of the Week

September 4 - Abby

