



Update:

Thank you to everyone who was able to make it to Open House on Thursday night. It was great to make contact with everyone again! We appreciate all you do to support us and your child. It takes a village; thank you!

## Stay Up to Date



To stay up to date be sure to read each issue of the "Rockin' Croc Times", follow us on Twitter @sycamorecreek5, and visit our [website](http://www.sycamore5th.weebly.com).  
([www.sycamore5th.weebly.com](http://www.sycamore5th.weebly.com))

## CHOMP Update

With 2 full weeks under our belt, it's safe to say our 5<sup>th</sup> graders are adjusting well to all of the expectations and procedures. We earned CHOMPliments in specials and lunch all week. As always, our classroom time is a crucial time for learning. Therefore, we need to make sure that our transitions are efficient and quiet. Thank you for continue to encourage your child to CHOMP daily.

## IMPORTANT DATES

8/18 - DC Intent Letter Due & Early Release (Neon Theme Day)

8/16: Solar Eclipse Permission form due (Friday folder)

8/25 - Go Play Save Due

8/30: Student Council (STUCO) Application Due

8/31: STUCO class elections.

*August Character Trait:*

[www.sycamore5th.weebly.com](http://www.sycamore5th.weebly.com)  
[jtomaszewski@wcpss.net](mailto:jtomaszewski@wcpss.net)

## Backpack Buddies

We need your help collecting donations for our BackPack Buddy Program. This program provides food for students in our community for weekends and extended holidays/track out. You can sign up to donate or volunteer here:

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/508084CAEA822A2F94-backpack1](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/508084CAEA822A2F94-backpack1)

Thank you for your support. Please reach out if you have any questions or suggestions!

## Newsworthy Announcements

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### **GO PLAY save!**

Each student received their Go, Play, Save book and money envelope this week to start off our school's first fundraiser. Students have an opportunity to earn money toward their Washington, DC trip. For every book your child sells, he/she will receive \$15. Therefore, each 5<sup>th</sup> grader has an opportunity to pay for their entire trip or alleviate some of the cost.

### **Welcome to the Creek**

It is with great excitement and enthusiasm that we introduce ourselves as the newest Croc Counselors. Sycamore Creek experienced a tough goodbye to Emily Rinkoski and Brian Zelski as they moved on to new endeavors. They prepared us well to transition into this school year. We planned the division of roles a bit differently this year. Lauren Brand will take the lead for K-2 grades and also serve as the 504 coordinator. Scott Gordon will be the point person for 3-5 grades and also be the PBIS co-chair. We will both serve in the counseling roles of teaching guidance, conducting groups, and meeting with children individually. If needed, we welcome parents for consultations about various needs of the students and families. We hope to get to know your student and family as soon as possible. Please feel free to reach out with any concerns, comments, questions, or just to introduce yourself!

We are happy to be here as your counselors. We look forward to the year ahead and getting to know our awesome community that is Sycamore Creek.

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#### **Media Volunteers**

Our media center is always in need of volunteers! We would love help shelving and checking in/out books. If you are interested in being one of our weekly volunteers, please email Andrea Lyons at [alyons@wcpss.net](mailto:alyons@wcpss.net). Thank you!

#### **Upcoming Events**

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##### **DC Intent Letter - Due August 18<sup>th</sup>**

Please complete and return the DC intent letter at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask.

### **Solar Eclipse**

The 2017 solar eclipse is occurring on Monday, August 21st. Sycamore Creek will have a school wide viewing of the event. We would like to thank the SCES PTA for generously purchasing safety glasses for all staff and students to view this once in a life time event!

#### **Classroom Needs**

Thank you to all of you that were able to donate supplies to start the year. It makes starting the year stress free and know I truly appreciate all of your support.

# Curriculum Update

**Math:** This week in math, we reviewed multiplication and division with whole numbers. Students learned a variety of strategies to assist them in demonstrating their understanding. Students practiced this skill with a game of Trashketball on Wednesday. We also learned how to use short hand drawings to conceptualize the decomposing/exchanging of values in order for a 3 to 4 digit dividend to be divided by a 2 digit divisor. This strategy will not be required of the students, but it is a great way to “see” what is happening when a student divides whole numbers.

**Reading:** In reading this week, we learned how an author uses the thoughts, speech, actions and interactions with other characters to help the reader create inferences. Students learned what it means to quote accurately to support their inferences as well. We also discussed the difference between feelings and traits. While this seems easy, it is a more challenging concept to apply when analyzing the characters in a text. On Tuesday, our mini lesson focused on interpreting figurative language. Students enjoyed the Nearpod activity that was used to practice this concept. In writing, we are continuing to refine our foundational skills in order to prepare for our first narrative writing piece.

**Social Studies:** We’ve continued our economics unit this week. Our focus on understand a personal budget as well as how taxes are used to help fund the common defense and general welfare of the people. Students were given an assignment to budget \$1,000 for their local community. The students seemed to enjoy this activity. Be sure to ask them all about it. At the end of the week, they learned about specialization and division of labor with a fun bookmark making activity.

## OBJECTIVES



### I Can Statements:

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:

- divide whole numbers by a 2digit divisor

#### Reading:

- Make inferences using information from the text.

#### Writing:

- Write narratives to develop real events using descriptive details and clear event sequences.

#### Social Studies:

- Understand that personal choices such as budgeting and saving result in benefits and consequences.