

CIS SunTimes

David Paltrineri, Principal
Melissa Buchanan, Associate Principal

CLAYTON
Intermediate School

February 2022

Hello CIS Families,

The first month of 2022 has come and gone. There are many lessons we have learned this year. Challenges refine us, make us stronger, and develop character that will help us to be successful. I'm proud to say that our students, staff, and families have shown great perseverance, dedication, and patience through the challenge of the Pandemic. Together, we have been able to provide the education necessary for each and every child. The connection between home and school is vital to the success of all students and we truly appreciate your cooperation. It goes without saying, that we love seeing the students being in school every day. The students bring such joy to the building with their smiling faces and amazing personalities. We look forward to the day when they return to Clayton Intermediate School full time without masks, without contact tracing and without the COVID pandemic.

In January, we celebrated Martin Luther King Day and talked about the COURAGE he showed all of us. February celebrates Black History and the many amazing contributions Black Americans have made to our country.

As always please feel free to contact us anytime during your child's stay at CIS.



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Important Dates

2/3	Spelling Bee
2/7	Progress Reports Available on HAC (K-6)
2/21	No School: President's Day
2/22-2/25	Bus Driver Appreciation Week
2/25	No School: Teacher In-service Day

Core Value: Perseverance

Means continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failures, or opposition. The action, condition or an instance of persevering is steadfastness.

Student of the Month:

Tech Club:

~Mrs. Krista Bivins~

~January~

Reshetar	Finn Bullock	Urian	Thomas Waters
Hoye	Frank Furr	Webb	Brooklyn Dennis
Vitale/ Kowalczyk	Amari Morrison		
Quarles	Hailey Grubb	Preisich	Kaydence Bartsch
VanNess	Mark Garrett	Voshell	Franklin Petrucci
Hutchison	Jacob Shoop	Matthews	Dash Dizel
McClain/ Boyer	Ryan Mercado	Wright/ Boyer	Leah Easton
Swift	Christian Flores	Willis	Ervan Dhillon
Schomburg	Haylie Hall	Coverdale	Gabrielle Smith
Deppish	Simeon Brumbaugh	Cini	Bailey Kreer
Technology /Bivins	Ava Daniels	Gym/ Davis	Vincent Dunne
Art/ Crawford	Evelynne Baker	Music/ Carpenter	Kamille Murphy
Band- Chorus/ McCutchan	Phoebe Schomburg		

Tech Club will be starting Thursday, February 10th! The club will run every Thursday until 4:30. Interested students have completed an application, and selected students have been notified. I am excited to work on things such as coding, website building, and virtual reality during our time together. Students have also identified some of their interests, which will be incorporated into the club. We are super excited to have Tech Club resume at CIS!

Drama Club:

~Mrs. Missy Anspach~

This is reminder that the drama club has rehearsals every Monday & Wednesday from 3:30 – 5:00.

The show is scheduled for April 7 & 8, 2022. Hope to see you there.

Art Club:

~Mrs. Jodi Crawford~

Meets Wednesdays until 4:45pm.

Basketball Club:

~Mr. Matt McClain~

Meets Wednesdays until 4:45pm.

Step:

~Mrs. Alyssa Boyer~

Step is up and running and the students are having a great time. Parents please make sure you've joined the Remind for Step & Check the calendar for scheduled meetings.

Yearbooks are on sale NOW!

This year, yearbooks can only be purchased online for \$20. Please go to <http://ybpay.lifetouch.com/> and enter **YEARBOOK ID CODE# 11553622** and the other required information to order a 2021-2022 yearbook. Do not hesitate to order! Please contact Mrs. Bivins, krista.bivins@smyrna.k12.de.us with any questions. Thanks!

Student Council

Thank you to everyone who participated in the January theme days and Hat Day. We raised \$80 to go toward new playground equipment this spring. February is looking to be a busy Month at CIS. Please see below for the upcoming events.

February Happenings

Sponsored by Student Council

-  **February 2nd- 2's Day**- Wear Tutus, Ties and Tennis Shoes
-  **February 4th-** Black Artists- Wear clothing to represent a black musician, painter, writer, etc.
-  **February 7th-11th- Candy Gram** sales at lunches
-  **February 7th, 9th and 11th- Dodgeball Sign Ups**
-  **February 11th-** Jersey Day
-  **February 14th-** Red and White Day
-  **February 18th-** Black History Icons- Wear clothing to represent the important black leaders past and present
-  **February 18th- Electronics Day** at Lunch- \$2
-  **February 22nd-** Old Person Day- Show us what you might look like when you are old!
-  **February 23rd-** Twin Day
-  **February 24th-** Sports Day- wear clothing supporting your favorite team or player
-  **February 24th- Dodgeball** Tournament

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION[®]

Clayton Intermediate School

Marcy Gomez, Guidance Counselor



SHORT NOTES

The five Ws

Spark your youngster's interest in the newspaper by sharing sections with her. Tell her that a news story usually answers the five "W" questions: who, what, when, where, and why. Read an article together, and see if she can spot the answers to all five questions.

Camp registration

In many areas, camp sign-ups begin now. If you want your children to attend, start looking into options. City or county camps will cost less than private camps, and some may offer free or discounted registration to help people afford them. You could also check with community centers and places of worship.

Household fire drill

Your youngster is probably used to fire drills in school—but what about at home? Ask him to draw a map of your house and use a red X to mark two exits from each room. Then, pick a safe meeting place outside (the corner, a neighbor's front yard), and hold a fire drill.

Worth quoting

"Every great dream begins with a dreamer." *Harriet Tubman*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What kind of horse has six legs?

A: One that is being ridden.



Your child's social life

Just like being involved in your youngster's education can lead to his success in school, taking an interest in his social life can help him form healthy friendships and handle peer pressure. Try these strategies.

Ask about friends

When you talk to your child about what he's learning in school, also find out who he plays with at recess or sits with at lunch. During conversations with your youngster's teacher, discuss how he gets along with classmates. If he struggles to make friends, see if there is someone he seems to like or has things in common with. Then, encourage him to invite that child home to play.

Meet other parents

Building relationships with the parents of your youngster's friends makes it easier to manage any problems that arise. Before your child visits a friend's home, call the parent to touch base. Better yet: Drop your youngster off, and introduce yourself in person. You can also meet friends'



parents at school functions (literacy night, concert), sports games, and neighborhood playgrounds.

Explain peer pressure

Help your child make good choices when he's with his friends. Point out that kids influence each other in good *and* bad ways, and together, brainstorm examples of each. To determine the difference, he should think about whether a friend's advice is helpful ("You *have* to read this book!") or harmful ("Only babies wear helmets when they ride bikes").♥

Fun with analogies

Here's an easy way to boost your child's thinking and word skills.

Give her an *analogy*, or a sentence comparing how things are related. For example, "Basketball is to sports as mozzarella is to ____." She should say "cheese," since basketball is a type of sport and mozzarella is a kind of cheese. Then, let your youngster give you an analogy to solve.

You could also make up analogies about topics she's studying in school. If she's learning about continents, you might say, "Japan is to Asia as Mexico is to ____." (Answer: North America.)♥



Winter walks

Walking in a winter wonderland can be fun *and* educational. Find a trail in your neighborhood or at a park, bundle up, and have your youngster take along these items.

Camera. Bare branches allow your child to observe details that are hidden when trees are full of leaves. She can choose a favorite tree and take photos of it, zooming in on things like a squirrel perched on a branch or a hole in the trunk. *Note:* Have her come back to the same tree in the spring so she can observe changes like buds and bird nests.



Bag. Suggest that your youngster collect a few natural items from the ground, such as rocks, pinecones, or nuts. At home, help her practice research skills by using library books or websites to identify each object.

Book. Pick a comfortable place to sit,

and enjoy an outdoor read-aloud. A volume of nature poems, a story set in the woods, or a nonfiction book about wildlife make nice choices. Encourage your child to look around for images from the book (an icicle dangling from a porch, a deer darting through a field).♥

ACTIVITY CORNER



Memory strategies

Try this game to boost your youngster's memory. He'll discover techniques that can help him remember information he learns in school.

1. Write down 10 random words. Let family members look at the list for one minute, then put it away.



2. Give everyone a blank sheet of paper, and have them write as many words as they remember in two minutes. Count to see who got the most.

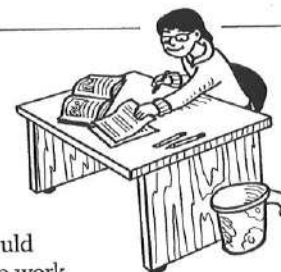
3. Discuss the strategies you each used to recall the words. Maybe your child noticed that *supermarket*, *crisp*, and *bow* could all be linked to food, and remembering food made him think of those three words. Or perhaps you made up a sentence using four of the words.

4. Play again with 10 new words. Encourage your youngster to try one of the ideas you discussed. Can he remember more words this time?♥

Developing a work ethic

A strong work ethic—a belief in the value of hard work—can help your child in school, at home, and in her future career. Consider these suggestions:

- Show her how you put work before play. You could say, "I want to relax with a magazine, but I have to work on our taxes first." Then, have her do her work first, too. For instance, she should complete homework before she watches a movie.
- Help your youngster recognize the feeling of satisfaction that comes from hard work. After she cleans her room, let her invite family members to take a tour. Or when she finishes a painting that took a long time, you could let her display it in the hallway as a reminder of her effort.♥



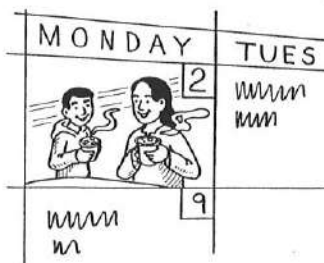
Q & A Create together time

Q: *Our family has a busy schedule, and I feel like I don't spend enough time with my son. How can we stay connected?*

A: Try giving your son a special spot on your calendar. Find a pocket of time, and pencil in his name. Then, ask how he'd like to spend it. Perhaps you could visit the library on Saturday morning or chat over hot chocolate after dinner on Monday.

You might weave "together time" into your existing schedule, too. If you work the evening shift, call him during your break and let him read you a story. When you're in the car or on the bus together, sing songs with your child.

Also, think about ways you can save an hour here or there so you can make time to be with your son. Could you put dinner in a slow cooker once or twice a week? Would switching to online banking help you pay bills faster?♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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