

# CIS SunTimes

David Paltrineri, Principal  
Melissa Buchanan, Associate Principal

CLAYTON  
*Intermediate School*

January 2022

## Hello CIS Families,

Welcome back from winter vacation! Winter has arrived with lots of snow. We hope you children had plenty of opportunities to enjoy the snow. It was a Winter Wonderland.

Although, it is January 2022, it seems like just yesterday we were opening the building and welcoming our students to Clayton Intermediate School. I am so pleased with the character, positive behavior, and academic progress of our students. We have enjoyed so many great events in the first half of the year: the Halloween Dance, Fall Field Day, fundraiser for Breast Cancer, a canned food drive, the Girls on the Run race, the Ronald McDonald House fundraiser, Homecoming Spirit Week, the 12 days of Christmas at CIS and of course our virtual band and chorus holiday concerts. We hope each of you has had great conversations with your child(ren) about the beginning of the school year. We appreciate all your support and look forward to continuing our partnership in the second half of the school year.

As you know, this year the Department of Education state exam is the Smarter Balanced test (SBAC). We have been working hard all fall preparing students for the Smarter Balanced test. The testing will begin in late spring, so please check for information coming home from the teachers with your child's test dates.

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



[David.Paltrineri@smyrna.k12.de.us](mailto:David.Paltrineri@smyrna.k12.de.us)

[Melissa.Buchanan@smyrna.k12.de.us](mailto:Melissa.Buchanan@smyrna.k12.de.us)

### **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.



## Important Dates

1/3	Welcome Back! School Reopens
1/14- 1/21	Theme Days: <b>Friday:</b> Hat Day <b>Tues.:</b> Dress for Dream Job <b>Wed.:</b> Western Day <b>Thurs.:</b> Dress Like A Teacher <b>Fri.:</b> Crazy Hair
1/17	NO School: MLK JR. Day
1/27	Mid-Trimester 2 (K-6)
1/28	No School: Teacher In-service Day

## Student Council News:

~Mrs. Jody Crawford~

December was a busy month preparing for winter break and enjoying some fun together as well as helping our community. Student council adopted a family for Christmas, did a fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House and had fun with the 12 Days of Christmas at CIS. Our officers even sang the 12 days of Christmas song on the announcements each morning!

### Thank you to all who donated to our **Ronald McDonald House of Delaware Collection.**

Together we were able to raise \$1161 to donate to this worthy cause! Congratulations to Mrs. Coverdale's class which collected \$495.02. They were our top collecting class and will receive a pizza party sponsored by the Ronald McDonald House.

January is looking to be a great month! Here are some of the activities we are looking forward to:

- January 14th- Hat Day (no hoods)- Cost will be \$1 to wear an appropriate hat for the day.
- January 18th- Dress for your Dream Job
- January 19th- Western Wednesday- Dress in your best flannel and boots!
- January 20th- Dress Like a Teacher
- January 21st- Crazy Hair Day

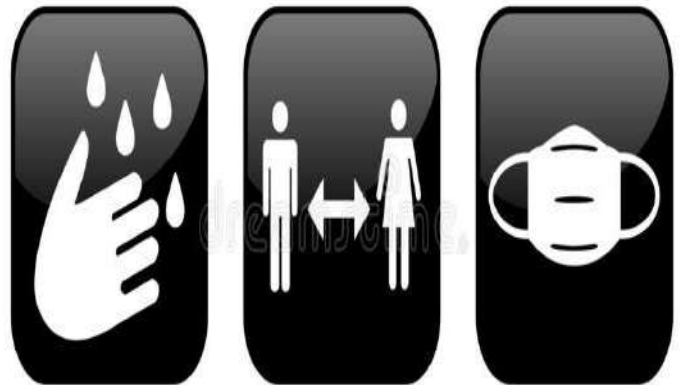
We are also planning on doing a Penny Wars competition towards the end of January. Please look for more information about this later in the month.

As always, thank you for all of your support!

## Nurse's Corner

~ Mrs. Christina Edge~

After the Holiday's remember the importance of the simple preventative measures to stop the spread of illnesses, especially COVID-19. Our best defense against infection & disease is a combination of vigilant hand washing, correctly wearing our face masks, and social distancing (at least 3-6 ft. apart). When cleaning your hands with soap and water, wet your hands first with water, apply the amount of product recommended by the manufacturer to your hands, and rub your hands together vigorously for at least 20 seconds, covering all surfaces of the hands and fingers. Then, rinse your hands with water and use paper towel to dry. Use towel to turn off the faucet. If soap and water are not available, CDC recommends consumers use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Completing these steps decreases the spread of illness/disease in our community.



## 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](mailto:krista.bivins@smyrna.k12.de.us) with any questions. Thanks!

## Student of the Month: ~December~

Reshetar	Violet Boulden	Urian	Ashtyn Williams
Hoye	Kennedy Marks	Webb	Waylon Bedford
Vitale/ Kowalczyk	Peyton Holt		
Quarles	Jake Tominovich	Preisich	Christian Baldwin
VanNess	Logan Cote	Voshell	Addison Cote
Hutchison	Zachary Hillman	Matthews	Jesse Mabrey
McClain/ Boyer	Alexander Bishop	Wright/ Boyer	Carter Biggs
Swift	Caroline Oliver	Willis	Jaden Gilliam
Bloemker	Wentzel Briar	Coverdale	Jack Childress
Deppish	Raegan Justice	Cini	Wyntre Royce
Technology /Bivins	Andrew Abe	Gym	Jolene Mikhail
Art/ Crawford	Levi Brumbaugh	Music/ Carpenter	Jacob Collins
Band- Chorus/ McCutchan	Jaxon Todd		

## Adopt A Resident:

~Mrs. Missy Anspach~

Thank you to everyone who made the Holidays special for the residents at DHCI. You opened up your hearts to make their day great!

## Drama Club:

~Mrs. Missy Anspach~

The cast has been chosen for the spring musical, Madagascar Jr. Fifty-four students stayed for tryouts. They all sang a piece of a song that is in the musical. After everyone tried out, the hard task came of picking the students for the show. Here are the results:

Marquis Neal – Alex; Champ Hiatt – Marty; Rachael Cain – Gloria; Jaxon Todd – Melman; Daric Kilgoe – Skipper; Phoebe Schomburg – Kowalski; Kaityly Chaplin – Rico; Calie Lewis – Private; Ashlyn Robinson – Zelda; Quade Gray – Zeke; Taraji Dale – Zoe; Jake Tominovich – Mason; Logan Huntoon – King Julien; Addison Affeldt – Maurice; Gianna Harris – Mort; Kaydence Bartsch – Lynn; Audriana Dispo – Lee; Preston Nelson – Lars; Jacob Collins – Foosa Leader; Sydney Bianco – Server #1; Ibukun Adeyemi – Server #2; Paisley Massey – Server #3; Maddison Miller & Zoe Townsend – Lionesses; Natalie McMillan – Candy Hammernose; Miles Smith – Cameraman; Chace Money – Passerby; Liliana Rauber – Old Lady; Amariya Chen – Newspaper person; Ahleia Neah & Paiton Perdue – Police Officers.

**The students rehearse on Mondays & Wednesdays from 3:30 – 5:00. The show will be performed April 7th & 8th**

# Home & School CONNECTION<sup>®</sup>

Working Together for School Success

Clayton Intermediate School

## SHORT NOTES



### Picture this

Good readers form mental pictures as they read. To improve your child's comprehension, read a book without letting him see it. Then, ask him to guess what the illustrations look like. *Examples:* How are the characters dressed? Is the setting bright or gloomy?

### Be there!

Regular attendance in elementary school sets up a good pattern for your youngster's entire school career. Show your child that school comes first by trying to keep days off for illnesses and family emergencies. Also, schedule routine doctor and dentist appointments for after school or over school breaks.

### Line them up

Sometimes children get math problems wrong simply because they haven't lined up the numbers correctly. Try this: Have your youngster do problems on graph paper, using one box per number. Once she gets used to this system, she'll be able to transfer her lining-up skills to regular paper.

### Worth quoting

"Kind words do not cost much. Yet they accomplish much." *Blaise Pascal*

## JUST FOR FUN

**Teacher:** Name one important thing we have today that we didn't have 10 years ago.

**Brian:** Me!



## Pitching in

Would you like your child to be more responsible, hardworking, and persistent? Here are ideas for working as a family to help your youngster develop these important traits.

### A group approach

Thinking of herself as a "team player" can encourage your child to be responsible. Explain that your family operates as a team. Everyone must play a part to get things done. *Example:* You take her shopping for her clothes and sports equipment. She chooses her outfit each morning and keeps track of her bat and glove.

### Hard workers wanted

Your youngster probably has regular chores to do. You can motivate her to work extra hard by placing "want ads" on the refrigerator. Choose a challenging job, and offer a benefit. *Example:* "Wanted—a hardworking family member to clean



out a corner of the basement. Reward—a nice place for kids to play."

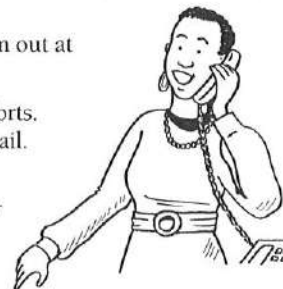
### Sticking it out

Working toward small goals can make it easier to complete a big task. Perhaps your family room needs a fresh coat of paint. Write down the steps (move furniture and lay down drop cloths, prepare walls, roll paint on walls, paint trim). Tell your child you'll take a fun break after each step is done (go to the playground, take a bike ride).♥

## Parent power

There are many ways you can support your youngster's learning and his school. Try these tips:

- Spend a few minutes every evening looking over handouts your child brings home. Fill out forms to return the next day.
- Tell your youngster's teachers if you can help them out at school or from home.
- Make sure teachers know you appreciate their efforts. From time to time, send a thank-you note or an email.
- Contact your child's teacher immediately if you see a problem. Working together will help your youngster succeed.
- Attend conferences, parent meetings, and school events regularly.♥



# Standardized tests

Choose to do well

True or false: Standardized tests are tough. The answer depends on how prepared your youngster is. Consider these four steps to help him handle test week.

1. Explain that the tests will show how much he has learned. Encourage him to try his best, but don't put so much emphasis on the tests that he feels stressed.
2. Practice the test format. For example, your child might have to read a paragraph and answer questions. Using one



of his textbooks, have him look at the questions at the end of a section first and then read the passage. That will help him know what to read for and how to find the answers.

3. Limit activities the night before tests. You may want to avoid having guests for dinner, or let him skip his brother's

baseball game if it means being out late. Be sure your youngster gets to bed on time and sets an alarm for the next morning.

4. On test day, give him an energy-boosting breakfast. Try to include both protein (eggs, yogurt, milk) and carbohydrates (fruit, oatmeal, toast).♥

## ACTIVITY CORNER

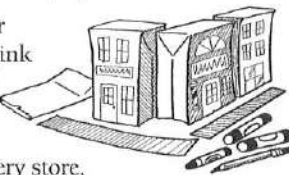
### Paper bag city

Let your child create her own 3-D community. She'll practice map skills and learn about urban planning as she decides where to put the buildings in her town.

**Materials:** paper lunch bags, crayons or markers, newspapers, black construction paper, scissors, tape

Have your youngster think of buildings to include, such as a bank, a grocery store, a school, a library, and houses. She can make them by drawing doors, windows, and signs on flat bags. For every bag she decorates, have her stuff a second one with newspaper. Then, she should open each decorated bag and slide it over a stuffed bag so her "buildings" will stand up. For the roads, she can cut black construction paper into strips and tape them together.

Finally, have your child lay out her roads and arrange her buildings alongside them to make her very own town.♥



## Q & A

### Bullying: The bystander's role

**Q:** My child has been coming home from school upset because kids frequently pick on a classmate and never let her play with them. What advice should I give my daughter?

**A:** Tell your youngster that her classmate was being bullied—and that she may be able to help stop it!

There are several things she can do. If she feels safe, she could say something like, "That's not nice," and then ask the classmate to walk away with her. Or she might invite the child who is being bullied to join her in a game or school project.

Also, remind your youngster to report bullying to a teacher or other adult when she sees it. Let her know this is not tattling, but a way to help someone who is being hurt. You can explain: "Asking an adult to help a child who is being bullied is like asking the nurse to help a child with a scraped knee."♥



## PARENT TO PARENT

### Thinking games

Between school, errands, and activities, my family spends lots of time on the go. I decided to use some of it for "thinking games."

I taught my kids a game my parents used to play with me, called "Would You Rather?" I offer two options and ask which they prefer and why. For example, I might say, "Would you rather live near the beach or the mountains?"

My son came up with a game he named "Three Favorites." Someone picks a category (outfits, movies), and we all tell our top three

choices. My daughter thought of "What Doesn't Belong?" We take turns naming items and asking the others to explain which is the odd one out and why. The kids especially like this game because there can be more than one "right" answer. For example, when I named *owl*, *ostrich*, and *eagle*, my daughter said, "Ostrich, because it can't fly." My son's answer was, "Owl, because it hunts at night."

Now they want to play all the time. I'm glad because we're having fun—and they've gotten better at thinking through their ideas.♥



## OUR PURPOSE

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

Resources for Educators, a division of CCH Incorporated  
128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630  
540-636-4280 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com  
www.rfeonline.com

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