

Cougar Families,

I'm sure the idea of an extra day off as schools will be closed in observance of President's Day tomorrow makes the weekend a bit more enjoyable! If that wasn't exciting enough, I have to share with the entire school community that Clissold School will finally be getting some much-needed improvements and have the opportunity to become ADA compliant. This has been an exhausting challenge to navigate our school this point. We have patiently waited and advocated behind the scenes to work with the district on projects. Finally, we can share the news that Clissold is in line for capitol upgrades to our facility that should be completed by December of 2019 heading into 2020! I will be able to provide more details about the project(s) in the near future! This is incredibly exciting for the entire school community! Also, incredibly exciting is our huge event in partnership with the Beverly Art Center on Friday! We look forward to packing the house at the BAC for our Celebrating Clissold Creativity annual event!

**Here are some reminders and updates:**

**Celebrating Clissold Creativity:** We are very excited for what will be another amazing night for the entire school community. Join us this Friday, February 22nd from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at the Beverly Art Center for a celebration of our scholar's immense talents. Student art work, music, dance, student demonstrations and performances will take place including our students portraying prominent historical African Americans.

**Community Projects:** Our IB scholars have been working very hard on their projects! Thank you to everyone for your support!

- As one of projects, we are collecting clothing to support South Chicago Homelessness Services. The drive will close on February 22. Please bring in gently used men's and women's jeans, sweatshirts, hoodies and belts. They also need new underwear and socks.

**Technology:** Please be mindful and observant of your child's screen time. It has been brought to our attention that students are searching, discussing, watching and taking part in potentially dangerous activities online. It is extremely important for all of us to be vigilant with our children when it comes to what they are doing on line. It is all of our responsibility to put safeguards in place and protect the innocence of our scholars.

**Register NOW for SelectivePrep's After School NWEA/MAP Test Program (for 7<sup>th</sup> Graders):**

SelectivePrep offers a 16-hour program to help prepare students for the Measure of Academic Progress (NWEA/MAP) test that will be used for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade standardized test score. Scores from this test represent **one third** of the Selective Enrollment admissions score. Additionally, scores from this Exam will play a crucial role in whether or not a student is admitted to other competitive programs including International Baccalaureate (IB) and advanced magnet high schools.

**To fully prepare students for these more rigorous tests, the SelectivePrep program has incorporated material based on the new tougher Common Core standards.**

Classes at Clissold Elementary will start on **Monday, March 11, 2019** and run for 8 sessions from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM. We will need a minimum of 10 students to run the class at Clissold Elementary – so please spread the word. The deadline for registration is Monday, March 1, 2019.

Click [here](#) to Register NOW OR go to the SelectivePrep website & look under the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Programs tab, Register for a Class for the “On-Site Clissold” class.

If you need more information or have any questions, please visit our website at [www.selectiveprep.com](http://www.selectiveprep.com) or call 312-409-8411.

**Box Top & Dimes Class Competition:** Clip the box tops from items you use in your home every day. Sort box tops into groups of 50 and place in Ziploc bags or place on the attached sheet. You can send dimes either on the collection sheet or in a Ziploc! Send them into your child’s class by FEBRUARY 22nd!

The winning 2 classes will get to enjoy a Pizza Party!  
Last year our school raised \$500 in Box Tops!  
Let’s exceed that goal this spring!

**Traffic:** The conditions outside will only make it more challenging during drop off and dismissal. Please be patient and courteous, do not forget to use the kiss-n-go near the playground. No cars should be parking in the bus parking spaces.

**Parking Lots:** The school parking lots are for school staff only. Do not park in lots or block the entrances.

**School Uniform:** Scholars should be dressed in school uniform daily unless otherwise instructed. Also, please remember layering options should be solid colored; maroon, navy, white or black.

**Thinking Ahead:**

- 2/18 No School
- 2/22 FOC \$2.00 Out of Uniform Day & Celebrating Clissold Creativity
- 2/28 2nd Annual Clissold Bowling Party (forms distributed last week)
- 3/30 Mother/ Son Night

As you know, we are a Montessori and IB MYP educational community who believes in the gift of every child to inspire and empower the future of our humanity.

**Collaborate with one another**  
**Support one another**  
**Care for one another**  
**Encourage one another**  
**And**  
**Remarkable things will happen!**

Kindly,

Your Clissold Administration