

Cougar Families,

This was a wonderful week for Clissold School! The week took us on a journey of African American history with a couple celebrations and school shows and finished with our first ever-full school dance party! Thank you CARE team! This wonderfully exhausting celebration of kindness led into our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Celebrating Clissold Creativity event. This was truly an inspiring evening packed with talent, innovation and originality. If you were not one of the nearly 500 in attendance you really missed out on a magical evening for Clissold School. You would have been amazed with the dance moves, enamored by the singing and instrumentals, mesmerized by the monologues and left in stitches by our MC, Vitoria! A huge THANK YOU to all of the volunteers, staff and community for your assistance with another hugely successful event in partnership with the Beverly Arts Center. This was just another reminder for the passion and creativity that exists within our school community, and I could not have been prouder of our scholars.

Here are a few reminders:

**Our “March to PAWsitivity” this month will see a focus on math, attendance and kindness!**

**March Mathness is here!!** We will focus attention on math this month with different incentives and announcements, not to mention Pi Day!

**March to 99%:** We need everyone’s help to elevate our attendance rate back to 97%. In order to obtain full points on our school report card we need 96%. More importantly, in order to best support our scholars, we need them in school!

**Kindness campaign:** We will be celebrating acts of kindness all month by passing out paw tickets like crazy. We have many incentives and raffles!

We will be honoring all of our services professionals by allowing students wear colored shirts with their school pants. Student may make donations going to the Behind the Vest campaign.

**Monday:** Fireman- black

**Tuesday:** Police- blue

**Wednesday:** Veterans/ Military- green

**Thursday:** Medical (Doctors/ Nurses/ Paramedics)-white

**Friday:** Teachers- red

**PARCC Assessment:** The assessment will begin this week for 3-8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**LSC:** The opportunity to run for our LSC has ended, but it doesn’t mean you cannot stay involved by attending meeting and providing input.

**PTA:** The nominations forms our out, please consider joining our PTA and keeping a wonderful tradition alive. Thank you to the entire Executive Board for all of their time and support, we have bug shoes to fill moving forward.

**PTA Fun Lunch:** This Friday will be a Subway Fun lunch opportunity.

**CIWP:** I will be sending out a survey to gain more input as we put together our school strategic plan. Please take some time to provide your thoughts. I would like all voices to be heard in the development of our school priorities.

**School Drama Performance:** More information coming soon! I announced at the BAC that our show this year will be Anne. Mark your calendars for June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Morning Entry and Dismissal:** Please remember to be courteous. I have been getting many calls and visits from our neighbors along 110th place and 110th Street about parents blocking driveways during these congested times.

- The adjusted K/1 dismissal at 2:40 PM seems to be helping a little with the congestion. The hope is that as we continue to make adjustments the flow will only get smoother. We realize with sibling pick up this doesn't change, but we will attempt to be on time each day. Our 4th-8th-grade homeroom teachers will continue to escort classes out to the blacktop daily.

**Safety:** Do not drive past student crossing guards! This is simply dangerous and unacceptable, please be patient.

- For the first time ever, February 14- March 14th has been proclaimed Crossing Guard Appreciation Month by the City of Chicago, and the city is kicking off the "Stay Alert, Don't Get Hurt" campaign on March 1st to remind motorists to practice safe driving habits and to be especially cautious around schools. Please help us honor and thank crossing guards who work hard every day to ensure the safety of your students by inviting your school community to participate in the campaign.

**Visitors:** Please make sure all visitors are signing in at the security desk. Parents and/or community members, as much as we love each of you should not be moving throughout the building without a visitor's pass.

We are a Montessori and IB Middle Years educational community who believes in the gift of every child to inspire and empower the future of our humanity.

Kindly,  
Mr. McNichols