

# **CULTIVATED LEARNING SOCIETY**

## **OUR MISSION**

To use our God-given abilities and knowledge to foster the natural love of learning in our children and in ourselves as we explore, create, and learn together, while striving for excellence in all we do.

## **OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH**

We believe there is only one God, the Maker, Preserver and Ruler of all things, visible and invisible, who exists in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We believe God is the Creator of all things. He made us in his own image to reflect his glory and to rule over his created kingdom. We believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins, rose, and ascended into heaven, and that salvation is found only through faith in him. We believe God inspired the words of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments. These writings alone constitute the Word of God, which is authoritative and without error in the original writings, and is complete, sufficient, and final in its authority.

## **EXPECTATIONS**

- **CLS IS A COOPERATIVE EFFORT.**
  - This means that every mom and every student needs to be committed to making CLS a success.
  - Moms are expected to help in every way needed, whether that's teaching, assisting, cleaning, grading papers, supervising study hall, taking care of nursery age children, or learning alongside the students.
  - Students are expected to participate fully with a happy attitude.
- **CLS IS A COMMUNITY.**
  - We expect all members to be friendly, welcoming, and willing to work hard to build positive relationships and cultivate a family atmosphere.
  - We encourage friendship between all ages, from the youngest to the oldest members.
  - We discourage "clique" behavior, romantic relationships, and teenage drama.
- **CLS IS A COMMITMENT.**
  - Attendance is not optional. Each family commits to attend every Monday, barring unforeseen illness or emergency. If you cannot attend, contact leadership directly as soon as possible. More than three absences per year for reasons other than illness or emergency may result in your family being removed from CLS.

- As a general rule, we do not allow parents to drop off children, but it is sometimes allowed on a case-by-case basis. If for some reason you need to leave your children at co-op without you for any part of the day, please get approval from leadership and designate another parent to be responsible for your child while you are away. ○ Homework is not optional. Each student commits to complete weekly assignments in a timely manner, giving a genuine effort to each assignment. Each family commits to enable, assist, and ensure that the students' assignments are completed.
- In cases of absence it is the parent's responsibility to make arrangements with the student's teachers regarding completion of homework.
- Communication is key. Each family commits to regularly check the website forums and communicate with other teachers and students as needed.
- It is important to pay all fees on time. This money is needed each semester to pay for the building and buy all supplies before the semester begins. If you are unable to pay by the deadline, please contact Amee to make other arrangements.

## **ADULT GUIDELINES**

- **RESPECTING OTHERS AT CLS.**
  - Aside from the core Christian beliefs outlined in our statement of faith, sincere Christians may disagree on matters of minor doctrine or conscience, such as politics, parenting, entertainment, etc. Please respect other families' views on such matters.
  - Focus on what unites us – love for God, love for our children, desire to educate our children well, and commitment to the cultivation of the family.
- **FULFILLING YOUR ROLE AT CLS.** ○ Make every effort to arrive on time each Monday.
  - Set an example by learning alongside students, having a positive attitude, striving for excellence, and behaving in a God-honoring way.
  - Parents are responsible for supervising their children both before and after regular CLS hours.
  - Teachers and assistants are to be fully engaged with the students in each class.
  - Technology use must be kept to a minimum, insofar as it can become a distraction to leading and assisting with students.
  - Assistants must be ready to help teachers in any way that will enable them to focus on teaching the class.
- **ENSURING CHILD SAFETY**
  - Children should never be alone with one adult who is not their parent. Children must be supervised at all times.

- CLS has a first-aid kit in the kitchen. Unless a parent provides alternate written instructions, adults may administer minor first aid such as antibacterial cream, band-aids, or anti-itch cream for insect bites. No oral medication may be administered by adults other than the child's parent. If emergency care is needed, adults should immediately call 911.
  - Keep others safe from illness by staying home if you have had fever, stomach illness, or any other possibly infectious disease in the 24 hours preceding CLS. Family members who are not ill may still attend.
  - *When classes are held outdoors*, assistants are responsible for carrying the first-aid bag and a list of the children in the class.
  - *When classes are held outdoors*, assistants are responsible for routinely counting the children in their care. Your primary duty is to ensure that no children are separated from the class.
  - *When classes are held outdoors*, assistants need to carry a cell phone to be used in case of emergency.
- 
- BEFORE YOUR FIRST DAY AT CLS, PLEASE REVIEW THE "GUIDELINES FOR CHILDREN" ON THE BACK OF THIS PAGE WITH YOUR CHILDREN.

## **Guidelines for Children**

### **Behavior:**

Speak and behave in a way that honors God and shows respect, kindness, and encouragement to others.

Show kindness, compassion, and respect for families who may have different opinions and views than you have.

Look for the things you have in common with other families and children; look for the good in each person. Be ready to participate fully and without complaining even if the week's activity is not your favorite thing to do. Non-participation or excessive complaining will be cause for you to be removed from the class.

Complete all of your weekly homework to the best of your ability. If you are having trouble, ask your teacher for help.

During class, be a good listener and join in class discussion.

### **Respect for property and materials:**

Be careful and respectful with all materials and church property. Put things away when you are finished.

Clean up after yourself and leave the church as clean as you found it.

Use water, materials, and other resources wisely, without waste.

**Stay with your group at all times. Do not wander off alone or with friends.**

**Students may not bring cell phones to CLS.**

### **Please dress to participate.**

Wear modest, comfortable clothing.

Please do not wear any clothing with potentially offensive words or images.

**Remember, we can't always have perfect days, but we can always have smiles and positive attitudes.**

