Creamy Chicken and Mushroom Soup

Serves 6

- 232 g boneless, skinless chicken thighs, *cut into 2.5-cm chunks*
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 2 T olive oil
- 28 g unsalted butter
- 232 g button mushrooms, thinly sliced
- 1 onion, diced
- 3 carrots, peeled and diced
- 2 ribs celery, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- ¹/₂ tsp dried thyme
- 30 g all-purpose flour
- 960 ml chicken stock
- 1 bay leaf
- 120 ml half and half, or more, (½ heavy cream + ½ whole milk)
- 2 T chopped fresh parsley leaves
- 1. Season chicken thighs with salt and pepper, to taste.
- 2. Heat olive oil in Dutch oven over medium heat.
- 3. Add chicken to the Dutch oven and cook until golden, about 2-3 minutes; set aside.
- 4. Melt butter in the Dutch oven over medium heat.
- 5. Add **mushrooms**, **onion**, **carrots** and **celery**. Cook, stirring occasionally, until tender, **about 3-4 minutes**.
- 6. Stir in **garlic** and **thyme** until fragrant, **about 1 minute**.
- 7. Whisk in **flour** until lightly browned, **about 1 minute**.
- 8. Stir in **chicken stock**, **bay leaf** and **chicken**, and cook, stirring constantly, until slightly thickened, **about 4-5 minutes**.
- 9. Stir in **half and half** until heated through, **about 1-2 minutes**; season with **salt** and **pepper**, to taste. If the soup is too thick, add more half and half as needed until desired consistency is reached.
- 10. Serve immediately, garnished with parsley, if desired.

