

The Oaks' Fourth Annual Latin Boot Camp a.D. MMXXII

First, a warm welcome to all parents and students entering The Oaks' Latin School this coming year. It's a great joy to welcome you to a language program whose students, by the grace of God and lot of hard work and study, are beginning to enter into true conversation and dialogue with the original authors in at least one of the classical languages.

St. Thomas Aquinas, asked once how to approach one's studies in gathering from the treasury of knowledge, replied: “...***ut per rivulos, non statim in mare, eligas introire, quia per facilliora ad difficiliora oportet devenire***”—choose to wade into the shallow streams rather than leaping straightway into the ocean deep, because one ought to arrive at an understanding of the more difficult by means of the more easy.

It's with this law of teaching from the easy and known to the more difficult and unknown in mind that we have another great opportunity—even before the year starts—to begin to take dominion in the area of Latin letters and the languages. That said, we cordially invite **all fourth through tenth-grade new students and parents** to the fourth annual **Latin Boot Camp from 9:00 to 1:00, Monday through Wednesday, August 29th-31st**. Every student who attended last year's boot camp was given a great deal of momentum and made record-breaking progress toward the goal of catching up as quickly as possible to the students in the our regular sessions.

Our objectives in the form of a few bullet points below are the following:

- Introduce and give a short history of our curriculum, *Lingua Latina Per Se Illustrata* by Hans Henning Oerberg
- Demonstrate many of the instructional means and methods we use in the total-immersion classroom to teach Latin by means of Latin
- Cast away fears and relieve unnecessary stress related to the difficulty of learning this classical language
- Instill confidence, courage, and a steady hand in studies from first principles and show that, “Anyone,” in the line of Ratatouille's chef, Auguste Gusteau, “can cook.”
- Cast a long-term and generational vision for the study of Latin letters at The Oaks.

There are about three hours worth of immersive sessions on the schedule per day to be taught from first principles through the first chapter or two of the text we use. Short snack breaks between sessions and a lunch are scheduled as well as Q & A sessions in English as needed. Please bring snacks and a lunch. In conclusion and by way of encouragement, the less Latin you've had the better. If you've had none, better still. Please come prepared with the text, exercise workbook, a small whiteboard and marker, and some paper and pencil or pen. We'll provide the entertainment.