



Sapientia et Scientia

Samuel Fuller School

“...Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”
Colossians 2:2b-3

November 6, 2017
Volume 10.9

Upcoming Events

November 10 –

No School: Veteran's Day Observed

November 15 –

5th – 6th Field Trip: New Bedford Whaling Museum

November 21 –

Thanksgiving Celebration and City State Day

November 22 – 24 –

Thanksgiving Break

November 28 –

End of Term 1



Monday Missive

Excerpts from

Latin: The Buttress of English

By Paul Schaeffer, SCL Journal Winter 2016

If you ever visit Paris, you cannot miss the Gothic cathedral of Notre Dame. It is essential to any tourist's list of places to visit. Not only is the interior spectacular, but the exterior as well. In the midst of the stained-glass windows and the detailed stonework, the flying buttresses are impossible to miss. Flying buttresses add to the beauty of the building and provide support to the tall, thin walls.

Latin is the support holding up English. It adds a beautiful dimension to our language. And without Latin, English would be nothing like we know it today.

In addition to taking Latin's alphabet, somewhere around 60% of English vocabulary is derived from Latin. Over half our words come from the Romans. In fact, it is rare to find a Latin word that has not been brought into English in some way. The lexicon of English pays daily tribute to Latin. Take a look at words like "rebel," from the Latin *rebellare* meaning "to fight back," "imperial" and "empire" from *imperare* meaning "to command," and "force" from *fortis* meaning "strong."

The grammar and style of English also owe a lot to Latin. Requiring subjects and verbs to agree in number, even if it might sound odd to the native speaker, is a holdover from Latin (e.g., "None of us is perfect" instead of "None of us are perfect").

While the English language itself owes a debt to Latin, the major support Latin gives to English has to do with instruction. English has by some estimates over one million words. It also has a grammar that is, in a sense, intangible. Because the language is built around word order, the very concept the word conveys as well as its context must be examined to find what part of speech it is.

Every English teacher can vouch that year after year the same students need to be retaught grammar concepts covered the year (or years) prior. That inability to grasp these concepts fully is the crack in the wall of our English cathedral. We try to build higher and higher, cracks start to form, and we don't know what to do. Latin should be the support. A serious study of Latin will alleviate the struggle to master English vocabulary and grammar. Grammar becomes their daily bread. They become familiar with it and their learning spills over into all their other writing. Most adults who studied Latin for enough time to master the entirety of the grammar will say they don't remember much of it, but what they do remember is their grammar.

But Latin is not just a support. There are other reasons to learn it. A rigorous study of Latin gives the student mental skills translatable to other disciplines. The habit of examining words and their endings in Latin transfers over into examining words and idea in literature, details in math, evidence behind scientific theories, and motivations of historical figures.



Announcements and News

POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER

This is your chance to share your passion for the Samuel Fuller School and provide a beautiful way for friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to celebrate the season. Whether they buy a poinsettia for their church, as a gift, as a donation to a nursing home or for themselves...their support helps our school to flourish. It is easy...

- Collect orders with payment or direct people to order online
- Hang flyers – at your church, library, restaurants, gyms
- Post on Facebook and share with everyone – Invite people to the Facebook event which will have a link to order online too.
- Return order forms with payment to the school by **Tuesday, November 28th**.

Plants will be available for you to pick up at the school on Thursday, December 8th from 2:45pm – 6:00pm.

MARKETING VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

We want to invite our churches and communities to our uplifting Christmas program, [A Noel Celebration!](#) Please let us know if you are available to post flyers at local libraries or restaurants. We want as many people as possible to meet our school, but most importantly to hear the true Christmas story!

EASY FUNDRAISERS

Remember, throughout the year, you can easily support SFS with some simple fundraisers.

- Box Tops
- Hannaford's school dollars
- Stop and Show A+ Rewards
- Amazon Smile

If you have not already, please consider incorporating one or more of these into your life.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Samuel Fuller School is partnering with FCC and Operation Christmas Child to fill shoeboxes full of toys, games, school supplies, and toiletry items. Needy children around the world receive these boxes and then participate in the student course "The Greatest Journey" where they will learn what it means to faithfully follow Jesus Christ.

If you would like to put together a box for this project, please drop off your box in the entry way by Nov 17th with the \$9 shipping fee attached to the outside of the box. Empty shoeboxes are available in the entry way. Please take one if needed.

NEW CHRISTMAS ROBES

With Thanksgiving and Christmas around the corner, Mrs. Rivers and the students are already preparing for our annual Christmas program. We will need more robes for the students, so please let us know if you can sew even just one new robe. Every stitch helps!