

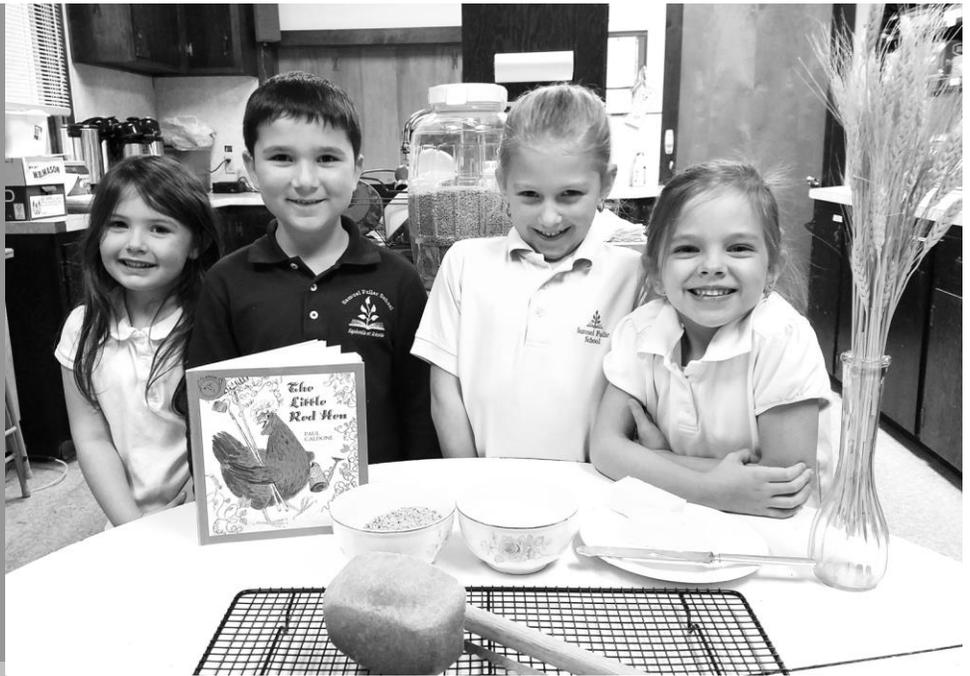


Sapientia et Scientia

Samuel Fuller School

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

December 11, 2017
Volume 10.14



Monday Missive

Upcoming Events

**December 21 –
7PM: Christmas
Concert**

**December 22 –
9:15AM-1PM:
Christmas Party**

**December 25-January 5 –
Christmas Break**

**January 15 –
No School: Martin
Luther King Jr. Day**

**January 19 –
City State Day**

Part 2: Excerpts from *More Important Than the Cosmos Itself: Why Literature Matters*

By R. W. Livingstone (*The Classical Teacher* Summer 2017)

The study of science and math is very necessary for students to understand the world around them, but it is not the only thing our children need. One of the chief objects of education is to train flexibility of mind, to make a man quick to comprehend other points of view than his own. Obviously, no power is more necessary in dealing with men. We spend half of our time in misunderstanding our neighbor, and in most controversies misunderstanding is the dividing line between the parties concerned. Now the power of sympathetic insight is trained by a literary education. A man learns above all from the study of literature and history to put himself in the place of other men, races, and times, to identify himself with them, to see what they mean and how they felt. And so, by continual practice, he becomes quick at seizing the views of other people than himself, seeing what is in their mind, and accommodating himself to it.

Here physical science gives no help. In literature the mind must continually be moving from one place to another; in twenty-five pages the reader must successively become Polonius, Hamlet, Horatio, Laertes, Gertrude. In fact, he must do what the merchant does who wishes to sell goods in half a dozen different markets, or the statesman who has to consider the interests and temper of half a dozen different classes and nationalities. But science keeps on one plane. It is not puzzled by the subtle and profound variations of outlook which separate a Russian from an Englishman, a Herefordshire farmer from a Tyneside artisan. Minerals and nerves, alkalis and engines have no point of view, no outlook on life, into which it is necessary to enter; understanding them is very different from understanding Shakespeare or Euripides. You deal with them all the while remaining your own insulated self. Science does not train sympathy, because nothing in its subject matter has feelings with which we can sympathize.

So instead of handing our youth over wholly to mathematics, to live with the abstract skeleton of the world, or to science, to study the causes of phenomena of the physical universe, we also hand him over to literature, to the prophets of humanity, in the hope that he may learn to see the world as they saw it, and catch something of their joy, nobility, and inspirations. This is not to surrender him to idleness or daydreams. Shakespeare and Milton, Bacon and Burke were not worse men of business because they had genius. Indeed imagination is necessary to the highest success in any way of life.



Announcements and News

REPORT CARD RETURN

After reviewing your child's report card, please sign it and **return** them in the **manila envelope** provided. We hope to use the same envelopes throughout the year.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our Christmas program is next **Thursday, December 21st!** We cannot wait to hear our students sing about the true story of Christmas. Please **invite friends and family** to this event. Attached to this newsletter are several **postcards** that you can distribute. After the performance there will be a reception, so keep an eye on Basecamp for a **sign up** to provide snacks and drinks.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

On **Friday, December 22nd** will be our school Christmas party with games, snacks, and fun! We will have a delayed opening, **starting at 9:15AM**, and the day will **end at 1PM**. The K-4th will participate in a Secret Santa (\$7 limit), and they were assigned their partners last week. Let Mrs. Rivers know if you have any questions. The 5th-8th grades will participate in a Yankee Swap (\$7 limit). Lunch will be a regular pizza Friday, and order forms will go home on Monday. If your child does not order pizza, he or she should still bring a lunch.

BOX TOPS

Keep collecting Box Tops! A collection sheet is attached if it helps you keep track of them.

