

I will learn the true. I will do the good. I will love the beautiful.

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Latin Levity

October 28, 2015

This school is fortunate in being built around intelligent, well-educated, and hard-working teachers who love what they do. It is our hope that The Chronicle will be able to offer from time to time our teachers' reflections on the liberal arts and on teaching and learning. These articles should offer insights into what and how we teach at this school and into the thought that goes into teaching weighty subjects. Lest ye think that these essays need be on the dry side, we begin with a light-hearted but erudite essay on the humor to be found in the art of the classical quip written by our own learned Dr. Roth.

How to Crack Wise in Latin

There are various criteria one could use to gauge one's proficiency with a studied language, among which one of the highest thresholds to pass is the ability to enjoy a jest in a foreign tongue, and even beyond that, to fashion an original joke in that language. For this reason, the apogee of my pride in my faculty with the Latin language was reached this past summer, while I was attending three

THIS WEEK

October 25 - 31

B Week (BABAB)

10/26 - JV Boys & Girls
Basketball Tryouts

10/27 - JV Boys & Girls
Basketball Tryouts; Uncle
Maddio's Spirit Night

10/28 - JV Boys & Girls
Basketball Tryouts

10/29 - JV Boys & Girls
Basketball Tryouts

10/30 - Curriculum Day;
JV Boys & Girls
Basketball Tryouts

10/31 - GHSA Region 5 A

consecutive week long spoken Latin programs. One activity was to listen to and try to solve Latin riddles, and then to create one's own and regale the other participants. It is with some degree of shame that I confess that the riddles that most quickly sprang to my mind could in all honesty be considered puns, which are often dismissed as the lowest form of humor, but even if one does not protest that assessment, I am of the belief that any type of humor is welcome at most times. Let me share with you, then, the two Latin puns that I devised, and to my credit let me ward off the admission of defeat that comes from explaining a joke by recollecting that these puns provoked smiles, mirth, and laughter from the other Latinists there assembled, and so for the sake of veracity and at the expense of humility I will elevate them from simple puns to actual jokes worthy of, say, a Latin version of *Mad* magazine.

*Quid dixit canis latroni domum alienum intranti?
Latro, latro!*

What did the dog say to the burglar entering the house?

Bark, thief!

As is manifest, only in Latin does this joke makes sense, let alone produce humor. The joke is that the noun *latro*, meaning 'thief,' is homonymous with the verb *latro* 'bark.' Usually Latin nouns and verbs have distinct endings, but in this rare instance there is overlap. A good deal of the humor is derived from the fact that this verb is usually encountered in the 3rd person form *latrat*, as in 'the dog barks,' and the form *latro*, though grammatically possible, is rare in the extreme, as it means literally 'I bark,' which is equally uncommon in Latin and English, although it would work very nicely in a Latin version of the old *Far Side* comic about the invention of a dog translator device, which reveals that dogs just

Championship; JV Cross
Country Meet

NEXT WEEK
November 1 - 7
A Week (ABABA)

11/2 - MS Girls Basketball
Tryouts

11/3 - MS Girls Basketball
Tryouts; MS Boys
Basketball Tryouts

11/4 - MS Girls Basketball
Tryouts

11/5 - MS Boys Basketball
Tryouts

11/6 - Principal's Coffee;
Upper School Dance

COMING UP

11/10 - Willy's Spirit Night
@ W. Paces Ferry

11/11 - Veteran's Day
Ceremony

11/12 - Development
Committee Meeting;
Orientation and
Enrollment Presentation

11/13 - Fall Fine Arts
Performance

11/16 - MS Girls
Basketball v. AIS;
MS Boys Basketball v.
AIS

11/19 - MS Girls
Basketball v. SF; Board

constantly bark 'Hey!' at each other and at passing humans.

Olim imperator Augustus servum nomine Lentum habebat. Quid dixit Augustus servo Lento cessanti? Festina, Lente!

Once upon a time, the emperor Augustus had a servant named Lentus. What did he say to Lentus when he saw him lounging around?

Hurry up, Lentus!

Once again, this only makes sense in Latin, but beyond that, only if one is familiar with a famous anecdote about Augustus, the first Roman emperor, as recorded in a biography by the 2nd century AD historian Suetonius. Augustus, it seems, was perhaps inordinately fond of certain expressions, which he either coined himself, or appropriated from others and made his own through frequency of usage. One of these was the expression "faster than boiled asparagus," which was used to indicate an activity of very short duration, as the Romans preferred to eat their asparagus parboiled. Another such witticism was to say that an event would happen "according to the Greek Kalends," which was to say never, since the Kalends (the 1st day of the month) was an exclusively Roman way of reckoning the date, with no connection to the Greeks at all. Arguably the best known of Augustus' trademark expressions was *festina lente*, literally 'hurry slowly,' a usefully abbreviated way of expressing the idea "work quickly, just not so quickly as to do a bad job." Knowing this expression in Latin, we see that the above joke works because the servant's name is Lentus, which would be *Lente* in the vocative case, which is the form of a noun that one uses when one is directly addressing someone in order to, for example, tell him to hurry up.

Meeting; Governance
Committee Meeting

11/20 - JV Girls Basketball
v. Galloway; JV Boys
Basketball v. Galloway

11/25 - No School -
Thanksgiving Break

11/26 - No School -
Thanksgiving Break

11/27 - No School -
Thanksgiving Break

View the [online calendar](#)
for the full list of school
events.



MISSION

To develop students
in mind and
character through a
classical, content-
rich curriculum that
emphasizes the
principles of virtuous
living, traditional
learning, and civic
responsibility.

Lentus is not actually a Roman name, but it has the ring of a Latin name to it, and in fact is very close to the real *cognomen* (last or family name) Lentulus. Roman last names evolved from nicknames, often unflattering ones, given to some ancestor, which (unfortunately most of the time for the descendents) became hereditary. At some point a Roman man was perceived, rightly or wrongly, by those around him as slow (either physically or mentally), which became his nickname, but to soften the blow of being called 'slow' (*lentus*) by everyone, the diminutive form *lentulus* was used instead, meaning 'the little slow one.' This nickname became so entrenched that the man's children and grandchildren inherited it as their family name, regardless of whether they were slow in any way. Julius Caesar was famously bald (and very conscious of it), but the name Caesar was derived from the Latin word for a thick head of hair, due to the hirsuteness of some remote ancestor. The most famous Lentulus was Publius Cornelius Lentulus Sura, who reached the pinnacle of political power by becoming consul in 71 BC, but was then expelled from the government for corruption, only to try to regain power by joining the conspiracy led by Catiline to overthrow the Roman state, an event remembered not so much for its inherent importance (it failed miserably), as for the fact that the orator Cicero brought the conspiracy to light and never let anyone forget about it afterwards.

Knowing these two *magna opera* (the correct plural of *magnum opus*) should not tempt anyone to give up his day job and pursue a career in comedy, but I assure those who might consider adding these to their comedic repertoire that they will bring the house down wherever Latin speakers are gathered, and I dare say Virgil and Cicero would be proud.

VIRTUES

Courage
 Courtesy
 Honesty
 Perseverance
 Self-Government
 Service

Virtue of the Month

Honesty

Definition:

To be held in or deserving of honor; being free of deceit and untruthfulness; being whole and undivided; the whole truth and nothing but the whole truth.

Board Meetings

Board meetings occur on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Library at Atlanta Classical Academy. These meetings are open to the public and parents are encouraged to attend. Community comments are limited to 2 minutes and we request they be submitted in writing. Board meeting agendas

Atlanta Classical Academy Curriculum Day

On Friday, October 30, Atlanta Classical Academy will host its Second Annual Curriculum Day. During this event, elementary classes may dress up according to the class themes listed in the link below. Parents are invited to attend during the times when the class will be acting out part of the curriculum. Teachers are sending out information to parents regarding the particular happenings of their classes.

Notes:

- **Parking and a shuttle will be provided from Trinity Presbyterian Church.** Please look for official Atlanta Classical Academy signs and park in the designated areas in the upper parking lot of the church. ***No parking will be available at Northside Baptist Church due to a special event being held there.***
- If a costume requires the wear of an undergarment, please have your student wear the uniform underneath the costume.
- Curriculum Day is for lower school students only. Upper school students will wear their official school uniform per usual.

Please [click here](#) for a detailed schedule of times and themes.

Classic Movie Club

Mrs. Edwards and Miss Flynn are hosting the Classic Movie Club this Friday. Any student in the 6th - 8th Grade are welcome to join in watching *The Wizard of Oz*. Students may be picked up at 5:45

and minutes are posted on the [school's website](#).



CHEF ADVANTAGE

To order school lunches, [click here](#).

Remember, you must submit your order four days in advance.



Registration is open for Kiddos After School Program. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

School Partners

Remember to use your Partner Cards to raise money for Atlanta Classical Academy!



pm in the normal carpool location. Contact [Mrs. Edwards](#) with any questions.



Principal's Coffee

Please join Mr. and Mrs. Lambert on Friday, November 6, at 8:30 am in the cafeteria for coffee and conversation. The topic at hand will be *Character Training 101: Perseverance and Courage in Parenting our Children to Become Citizens of Character and Intellect.*



Upper School Dance

Inviting all 7th, 8th, and 9th Graders to the Upper School Dance on November 6! The theme of the dance is "Through the Decades." Students are allowed to dress in an attire from any decade they wish. Please see below for the dress code. Food will be provided. Tickets are available for sale on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays starting October 28. They are \$5 in advance and \$10 at the door. We welcome all students to meet in the gymnasium from 7:00 - 9:30 pm for a great night of fun and lasting memories!



GET SOCIAL

Thank you,
The Dance Committee



Dress Code:

Girls:

- skirts, dress pants, and dresses are allowed (no jeans)
- everything must be no more than 4" above the knees
- conservative neckline

- no exposed midriff
- nothing strapless
- no backless shirts or dresses
- no flip flops

Boys:

- dress pants (no jeans, no shorts)
- no T-shirts
- no flip flops

Uniform Sale

Dennis is holding a clearance sale on merchandise that had last year's Atlanta Classical Academy logo. These items are still permissible to wear as part of your uniform. [Click here](#) to view the items on sale. You can order these on [Dennis' website](#). They are available while supplies last.

Prospective Parent Information Sessions

Prospective parents, students, and members of the community are invited to join Atlanta Classical Academy founders and enrollment staff for an overview of our academic philosophy, academic plan, school life, sports and activities, as well as a detailed explanation of the enrollment process.

Applications to participate in the enrollment lottery will be available in January 2016 for Grades K - 10.

Information sessions will be held on the following dates from 6:00 - 7:00 pm at the school. Please [RSVP here](#).

November 12, 2015

January 26, 2016

ACA Athletics - GO CAVALIERS!
To view the full athletics calendar, [click here](#).



Winter Sports Registration

Please click on the links below to register your student for winter sports through SchoolMint. [Click here](#) for instructions on how to register using SchoolMint. Parent consent forms and waivers are included in each registration packet. All applicable forms must be submitted for your child to participate in tryouts and practices.

Please note that basketball registration will manage payments once the team roster is selected. Links to our Sponsor-A-Student program will also be available once teams are chosen if you would like to provide athletic financial assistance.

[7th/8th Grade Basketball Registration \(Boys & Girls\)](#)

[Junior Varsity Basketball Registration \(Boys & Girls\)](#)

Basketball Tryouts

JV Boys: October 26 - October 30, 3:30 - 5:00 pm

JV Girls: October 26 - October 30, 5:00 - 6:30 pm

MS Boys: November 3 and November 5, 3:30 - 5:00 pm

MS Girls: November 2 and November 4, 3:30 - 5:00 pm

Atlanta Classical Academy All-Sport Athletic Store

The Atlanta Classical Academy All-Sports Athletic Store is now open through November 4, 2015. Ten percent of all proceeds will directly benefit Atlanta Classical Academy athletic teams.

Click on [this link](#) to visit the website and enter the access code: **desmon7PF**

If you have questions about sizes, please reference [Nike's sizing chart](#). Please note that items in this store may not be substituted for uniform attire during the regular school-day hours.

Soccer

The Cavaliers MS Boys soccer season wrapped up with a loss to Ridgeview Charter School in the Semi-Final game. The team put forth a fantastic effort in the first half and left the field tied 1-1 with the #1 seed. The final score was 5-1. There was tremendous growth all around and Coach Holt and Coach Wallach could not be more proud of the boys!

Fall Sports Uniforms

Please turn in all cross country and soccer uniforms to your respective coach by the end of the week.

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