



Parenting: Our Great Responsibility

Raising children is a big deal. It is one of the most important things any of us will ever do in life. All too often we get busy and driven in the rat race making a living and surviving another day that we can fail to give this important task the appropriate level of consideration. None of us want to fail at being parents. All of us want the best for our children and to that end there are a few things we should consider:

1. **Spiritual life matters.** Your children not only need you to feed them, clothe them and protect them from natural harm but above all they need to gain spiritual life from you. As parents, our most important responsibility to our children is our own personal obedience to Christ. By knowing, loving and serving God we are assured that our children will reap the inherent benefits of such obedience. When we obey Him we can trust that He is aware of our children and their needs and that He is working within their hearts. It's up to us to set the clear example that we order our

homes and our lives around God, His ways and preferences and our service to Him. Children learn through examples and demonstrations. There is nothing more important as parents than our own lives being a highway that lead them to a rich, deep and safe relationship between them and their Creator.

2. **Take the long view.** When it comes to parenting don't just think about getting through the day, the week, the school year or the current stage the child is in. Think of who they are becoming. Discipline and encourage them in ways that are shaping the character they will have as adults. Think of the kind of husbands and wives, mothers and fathers, friends and employees or employers you want them to be. Today is when you give them the basic patterns and foundations for keeping covenant, ending strife, reconciling hurts instead of inflaming them, carry responsibility, obeying authority and many other key principles that will forever shape their lives. The world is full of "unparented" adults and society is paying a price for it. Always think long term about the adult your child is to become.

3. **Guard the door.** As parents we have a right and a responsibility to vigilantly guard the door of our children's lives and protect them. Protect them from age-inappropriate conversations and movies; protect them from the

Legacy Academy



Legacy Academy (LA) is not just a concept for a school, it is an icon for Legacy to speak to and offer value to the youth of the nations. The LA process seeks to engineer a quality-learning environment that goes far beyond an academic experience. LA provides students with the knowledge and experience that will endure throughout their lives. The LA student must be drawn by a clear picture of a preferred future and not necessarily shaped by the past or present circumstances. To build this strong future we rely upon time-tested principles, values, and methods.

wrong adult influences and to carefully safeguard their hearts. Some will accuse you of being “over-protective”. Let them. The truth is that children need parents and you cannot abdicate your role. Safeguard them, don’t let them grow up too fast and create a safe environment for them to develop, grow and become mature in. Adulthood comes step by step and too many children these days have adult issues and life thrust upon them all at once, way too early by derange Hollywood and a surrounding society that has drifted too far away from all things sacred.

4. Education is important. A strong education, which is slow, methodical and done over the years, will help your child be prepared for college and develop a true capacity in your child for learning. That’s why we utilize the classical approach. It is thoughtful, methodical and proven. Yet it works over years and not over a couple of semesters. It is designed to teach children how to learn and to develop them as lifelong students who can reason, think, solve problems and find answers. It is made to create thoughtful adults capable of managing any station in life they end up at. It is not designed for fast success as most of education is now in America’s standardized test driven structure. The key is to develop children over the long haul who are morally sound and academically excellent. Your

decision and sacrifice to ensure your child receives this type of education is to be commended and as adults they will thank you repeatedly!

5. Trust God. Above all we know that even our best effort is insufficient without God’s help. Trust Him to help you. He loves your child and you both. He is well able to give you the grace and capacity to parent well. Lean on others of faith. Let your needs be known. It is a beautiful thing for people who love God to care, pray for and help one another.

Singing in the Classroom

Chants and jingles are beneficial in the memorization of facts. According to Dorothy Sayers, author of *The Lost Tools of Learning*, “The Poll-parrot stage is the one in which learning by heart is easy and, on the whole, pleasurable; whereas reasoning is difficult and, on the whole, little relished.” Aside from being easy and fun, music has been linked to long term memory. Therefore, if a child learns a new concept through song he will retain the information for years to come. This is crucial when building a foundation for children to learn upon. If this foundation is laid during the grammar stage of a child’s education, it will be much easier to build upon when he reaches the logic and rhetoric stages when analyzing and expressing is the main focus.

In the Classroom



Kindergarten and Pre-K visited First National Bank to learn about community helpers. The students learned about money, bank accounts, what happens to a check, the bank vault, and the history of the bank.



First through fourth grade has been busy gardening in the greenhouse. They have planted onions, carrots, eggplant, squash, peppers, herbs, and flowers.

Why Latin?

When your child enters first grade at Legacy Academy he will begin studying Latin. You may ask yourself “Why learn a language that is not used anymore?” or “Why learn Latin at such a young age?” The answer is simple

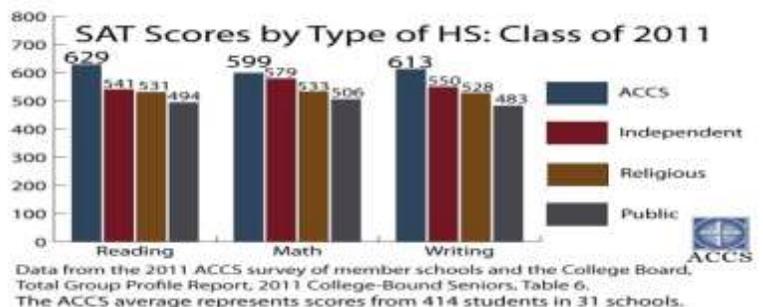
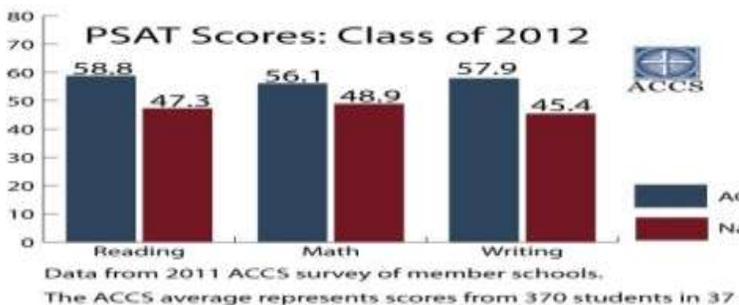
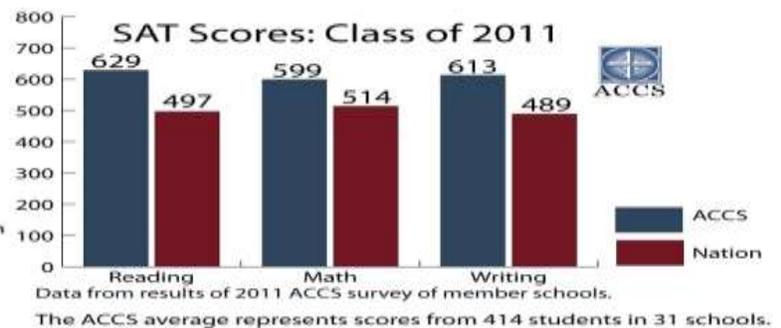
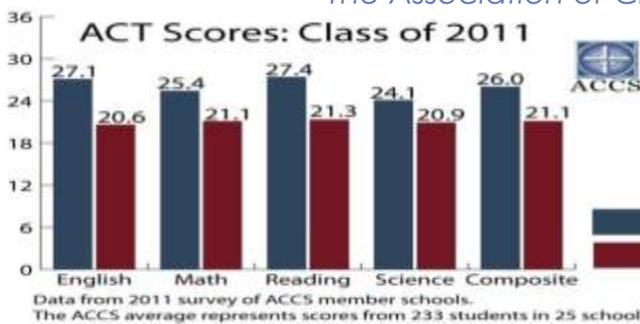
1. This is the time for language patterns. After your child has mastered phonics is the time to start studying Latin. The students at this stage can correctly identify English letters and sounds. They can easily read two syllable words. Now they are ready to go a step further. They are ready to learn Latin. Words that come from Latin roots are everywhere. They often have different pronunciation and

spelling patterns. It is much easier for a child to learn these rules during the grammar stage because they still enjoy memorizing facts. They are also excited about learning unknown words and a new language.

2. More than half of English words come from the Latin language. Some words remain the same while other words change form. The words that change form are the three to five syllable words that most students have difficulty learning. These are the words that start popping up in science, history, and literature text beginning in the third grade. This is the ideal time for your child to begin expanding his vocabulary.

2. Latin provides the root words for all modern science. Remember, at this stage of your child’s education a foundation is being built. For those students who will enter the medical or technology field, a Latin vocabulary is essential. Science began its development during the Renaissance when well educated people knew Greek and Latin. Over hundreds of years the base for science terms remains the same. Mastering the Latin language at an early age has many advantages. Not only does it aid students in their current education, but helps shape their future. *(This is the first part of 10 great reasons we teach Latin.)*

The Association of Classical and Christian Schools Statics



Dear Parents,

The new semester is rolling along and before we know it the school year will come to a close. We want to reiterate the gratitude in our hearts of having your student at Legacy Academy. Together we are providing our children something great that is helping us as parents develop their lives. Several things this year have proven to be a great success. The greenhouse and the library are two beautiful additions that the students are enjoying. The rotating blended class schedule is working very well and is a model we intend to keep. The year has also had its challenges. We ran into a cultural desert for a bit in trying to secure a violin teacher. Yet we are determined to build a strong music program that includes the violin. It appears that we

have now discovered a very talented professional violin teacher that has been right under our noses all along. **We are please to introduce a new violin teacher Ms. Merribeth Christopher of Mena that will begin next week!** We believe this will begin a new season of a long and stable music program being developed. We also continue to think ahead. **In the new year, we plan to expand to fifth grade** and to make the necessary renovations to accommodate this expansion. **We are looking at the implementation of ipads** and other technology in the fifth grade. **We are also looking at a school structure that would allow homeschool students to participate** in Legacy Academy and we continue to think long term down the road for upper level school development, including the future development of a school principal. Thank you

for your partnership. We hope you consider this school as much yours as it is ours.

Above all it belongs to God who has graciously made provision for all of our children to have this opportunity. For them we are creating a tremendous Legacy.

For Him,

The Gallagher

Upcoming Events

February 8- 100th day of school

February 14- Valentine's Day Party at 2:00

February 17-20 President's Day Recess

March 2- End of third quarter

March 9- Reports cards go home

March 13- Parent teacher conference

March 19-23 Spring Break

You can contact us by email anytime:

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