



August 2023

Salvēte Omnēs Discipulī et Parentēs!

Welcome to Middle School Latin! My name is Magistra Carlson, and I am so excited to commence my 14th year of teaching Latin at Highcrest Middle School! *Tempus Fugit* when you're having fun!

A little bit about myself: most people ask, "How did you become a Latin teacher?" Well, I never actually imagined it myself, but it all came about in college! As a side job, I started teaching Latin while I was still an undergraduate student at Northwestern University. During my senior year, I worked as a middle school teaching assistant for two years and every day was so excited to wake up and go to work! I loved that experience so much that I remained at Northwestern for an additional year to earn my masters degree in education. After graduating and prior to joining the staff at HMS, I taught 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Latin for four years at a private school in the area. Overall, I believe every child can benefit from studying the unique and amazing Latin language, and I cannot wait to begin this educational journey with you all as well!

In 5th grade Latin, we will focus on solidifying our background knowledge of the Ancient Romans specifically in the areas of history, art, architecture, daily life (including Roman food!), and religion. We will also introduce the Latin language through simple conversation, songs, games, projects, and more. Great ready to learn all about those radical Romans! ☺

For my veteran 6th grade Latin students, we finally begin working in our textbook *Ecce Romanī* in which we will commence formally our study of the Latin language. We will examine intensively the morphology, syntax, and semantics of Latin as well as translating a plethora of fun stories. Don't worry! We will also continue those songs, games, history, and culture of the wild Ancient Romans like last year!

In both programs, we will focus on our essential question "How have the Latin language and the Ancient Roman Empire impacted our modern lives?" and we will investigate that question within each of our units of study. As well, we will learn more about common Latin phrases that are still in use today (like *etc.*, *a.m.*, *p.m.*, *tempus fugit*, & more) along with Latin and Greek roots for many English derivatives. Look forward to using our iPads daily in the classroom, we will often utilize fun apps related to the Latin language, culture, and study games to help the language come alive!

I hope that you all had a wonderful summer!! Can't wait to meet my new 5th grade students this week and seeing the familiar faces of my 6s too! We are going to have a great year studying Latin together!

Avēte et Valēte! (Hail and Farewell!)

Magistra

