

# Legenda

## Latin for “things to be read”

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News, Notes & Needs of The Washington Latin Public Charter School – 11.05.09

### Word of the Week

The 'Word of the Week' is:

**truculent** \TRUCK-yuh-luhnt\  
*adjective*

1. Fierce; savage; ferocious; barbarous.
2. Cruel; destructive; ruthless.

Truculent derives from Latin truculentus, from trux, truc-, rough, savage, fierce.

#### In this edition of The Legenda:

- Letter from Head of School, Martha Cutts
- Info on the National Junior Classical League
- Open House Details
- Note from the School Librarian
- PA Events and Fundraisers
- Lion Sport Report
- Events happening around DC
- November Calendar



## I. NEWS

#### From the Office of the Head of School

Dear Latin Parents,

Mark Your Calendars!

Thursday, 11/5 – Upper School Poetry Night/Open Mic  
Friday, 11/6 - 8:30 a.m. Middle School Walk for the Homeless; 2:15 Upper School Walk for the Homeless  
Wednesday, 11/11 – **Veterans Day – No School; Upper School Curriculum Night for 8th grade parents**  
Friday, 11/13 10<sup>th</sup> Grade field trip to American Art Museum; PA sponsored Game Night (location TBD)  
Saturday, 11/14 - 2:00 p.m./ Decatur, Pampered Chef Fundraiser  
Wednesday, 11/18 - 5:15 -7:00 Banking & Finance class  
Tuesday, 11/24 – Noon Dismissal for Thanksgiving  
Monday, 11/30 – Classes resume

We have a number of students, especially at our Upshur campus, who are not being picked up promptly at the end of the day, and we are equipped to supervise only those registered for after-school activities. This is an issue of safety especially now that it gets darker earlier and the temperature is falling. We would appreciate your efforts to arrive on time. If you know that your Middle School child will have to stay later, please arrange for him or her to be in one of our supervised programs by contacting Kim Haggard at khaggard@latinpcs.org.

#### Middle School Homework Websites

In last week's Legenda, we announced that each of the middle school grade levels would have a homework website where parents could access daily homework. There are slight differences in the web addresses. Please use the following list as a guide:

5th Grade - <http://wlpcs5.wikispaces.com>  
6th Grade - <http://latinpcs6.wikispaces.com>  
7th Grade - <http://wlpcs7.wikispaces.com>  
8th Grade - <http://latinpcs8.wikispaces.com>

Our wonderful green, half-bus has served us well, but its age is beginning to show. If anyone knows of a 15-passenger van for sale at a good price, please let me know.

The second class in the Finance and Banking series will be on Wednesday, November 18. This series is open to ninth and tenth graders and to any adults who would like to take part. The class meets in the library at Decatur and begins at 5:15. Please note that dismissal time is 7:00 instead of 8:00.

Girls For A Change will be working with a group of Upper School girls on a community service project designed by the girls. GFC is looking for female coaches (sorry, Dads!) who would enjoy working with this group of students and serving as a mentor. If you are interested in knowing more, please see the full explanation that appears after my letter.

First quarter grades and comments are being submitted, proofed and prepared for mailing. Advisors and homeroom teachers will be writing a cover comment as well. Our goal is to get these reports in the mail to you next Tuesday, November 10.

Steve Percy, our new Chief Financial Officer, has been a wonderful addition to the school. Before coming to Washington Latin, he had planned a long-overdue vacation with his wife. He is traveling in Cambodia and will return at the end of this month. This has delayed our getting the first quarter lunch bills out to you. If I am able with the help of the accountants to get these to you before Steve's return, I will certainly do so.

We have seen a slight increase in absences, especially at the Middle School, and continue to monitor the numbers. In some cases, doctors are diagnosing H1N1, but often no test is performed, so we do not have an accurate sense of what the illness is. Parents can continue to help us minimize the spread of any illness by keeping children at home if the fever is 99.5 or higher.

**Reminder**

**WHAT:** Swine Flu – Vaccination Clinics

**WHERE:** The DC Department of Health (DOH) will host the free H1N1 vaccine clinics the priority groups of adults with underlying health conditions such as asthma and diabetes, and caregivers of children under 6 months. The clinics will continue to be in every ward once a week for the next three weeks.

Dates are:

Thursday November 5<sup>th</sup> 3pm-10pm @ Coolidge; 6315 5<sup>th</sup> Street NW

Thursday November 5<sup>th</sup> 3pm-10pm @ McKinley tech; 151 T Street NE -Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup> 10am-6pm @ Eliot-Hine MS; 1839 Constitution Avenue NE

Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> 10am-pm @ Ballou SHS; 3401 4<sup>th</sup> Street SE

Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> 8am-4pm @ Cardozo SHS, 1300 Clifton Street NW

Tuesday November 10<sup>th</sup> 5pm-9pm @ Coolidge; 6315 5<sup>th</sup> Street NW

**DETAILS:** Clinics will be open to high priority groups are: children, pregnant women, people caring for infants, youth ages 6months-24yrs., and people 25yrs.-64 yrs. with underlying medical conditions (i.e. asthma or diabetes). The vaccine will be available at participating pharmacies as well. DOH encourages all parents and guardians to call their child's doctor to see if they are providing the vaccine.

**CONTACT:** Additional information about novel H1N1 flu and other related health topics can be found at the Department of Health H1N1 page [www.doh.dc.gov/flu](http://www.doh.dc.gov/flu) or by calling 311.

With best regards,



Martha C. Cutts  
Head of School

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**Girls For A Change is starting another Girl Action Team in Washington DC and we are looking for volunteer Coaches!**

After launching our first Girl Action Team in the DC area this fall, we are starting another team with [Washington Latin Public Charter School](#). To start this team, we need your help! Girl Action Teams consist of 5-15 girls and two women volunteers, serving as GFC Coaches.

As a volunteer "Coach" you will work with a partner Coach and a group of 5-10 girls. Coaches guide the girls through identifying a problem in their community and creating a girl-led solution over the course of 12 weeks. Most importantly coaches tell girls they are powerful, important and valued. The Coach position is a dynamic and rewarding experience that leads to connections with girls and other adult women in your community and implementation of a social change project. **For more information and to apply:** 408.515.8148 or [carrie@girlsforachange.org](mailto:carrie@girlsforachange.org)

**Benefits:** [Read what women have to say about](#) the life-changing experiences as GFC coaches! You'll also gain:

- A network of professional women
- Youth Development training
- Group Management and Facilitation Skills
- Coaching Skills
- Personal Development
- Public Speaking Skills
- Creation of social change in partnership with girls

**When:** You will meet once a week with girls for 12 weeks. This is a *15 hour per month* time commitment from November through March. Team meetings will begin after school around 3:45 p.m. The GFC program year begins with a Coach orientation and ends with a celebration of the team's work.

**Where:** Girls who are members of GFC are either in middle school or high school. This team will consist of girls from the Upper School (high school). The team will meet at the school in Ward 4 (The school is near the Columbia Heights metro station or can be accessed by the 14th street bus to 14th and Decatur. There is also parking at the school if you drive).

**Training:** In addition to Coach Orientation via webinar, we also offer additional Coach training sessions, either in person or by phone, that assist Coaches in working with teams, youth development, managing a social change project in partnership with girls and networking with other professional women. GFC Coaches say that their GFC training enhances their professional skills - from communication to project planning.

**Qualifications:**

- Ability to fully commit to a 12-week volunteer assignment from November through March
- Ability to attend Coach Orientation (via webinar)
- Willingness to be screened and fingerprinted.
- Willingness to work in partnership with another volunteer Coach.
- Desire to encourage, inspire, empower, ignite and engage young women to develop their leadership abilities and implement social change projects.
- Willingness to be flexible and open to the organic process that youth projects often take.

**For more information and to apply:** 408.515.8148 or [carrie@girlsforachange.org](mailto:carrie@girlsforachange.org)

**Calling All Young Classicists!**

Washington Latin is proud to now be a part of the National Junior Classical League, and we are looking for students in the 7th-10th grades to join our chapter! The National Junior Classical League, or NJCL as it's known to members, has over 50,000 middle and high school student members across the country, all of whom have a strong interest in the Classics. The mission of NJCL is to encourage the interest of the languages, literature, and culture of ancient Greece and Rome, and focuses on the classical influence in today's society. NJCL offers a variety of service opportunities, as well as academic, creative arts, and graphic arts contests throughout the year. The efforts of chapters are celebrated at an annual contest, held at a different college campus each year. There, students from across the country are able to "exchange ideas, hear noted speakers, participate in workshops, compete in academic, graphic arts, and creative arts contests and to meet JCL students from the United States and Canada." Meetings will be held bi-monthly on Wednesday afternoons, starting November 18th,

from 3:30-4:30pm in Ms. Farrell's room at the Upshur campus. Cost of membership is \$5.00/student. For more information, please email Ms. Farrell at cfarrell@latinpcs.org or visit the National Junior Classical League website at www.njcl.org. Looking forward to seeing you at the first meeting!

**From the Director of Admissions**

Washington Latin Public Charter School welcomes prospective families to attend our informational open houses.

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Thursday, January 14, 2010

Thursday, February 11, 2010

Thursday, March 4, 2010

**6:30 – 8:00 PM**

***4115 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW (corner of 16th and Upshur Ave)***

Washington Latin PCS is accepting applications for the 2010-2011 school year beginning on Tuesday, December 1, 2009. All applications received by March 5, 2010 will be included in a random lottery by grade level if the number of applicants exceeds openings.

Please spread the word to your friends, family and neighbors!

**From the School Librarian**

Thanks to Reading is Fundamental for a wonderful collection of new books, both fiction and non-fiction, with strong appeal to students across all grade levels. They will be showing up in our library and in our classrooms as soon as next week.

Between now and the winter holidays, I will be making suggestions for books to consider for holiday giving. And, if you would like to honor a teacher or other member of the Latin community, be it student or staff, the gift of a book to the library would always be welcome. We have a running wish list.

This week's recommendation:

The Tree That Time Built: A Celebration of Nature, Science, and Imagination collected by~ Mary Ann Hoberman and Linda Winston. This is a varied collection with appeal to all ages. The book is printed in recycled paper and includes a DVD of some of the poets reading their works.

## II. PARENT ASSOCIATION

You are cordially invited to a Pampered Chef *FUN*'draiser

**To benefit The Washington Latin Public Charter School**

**Join us for a Mexican-themed cooking demonstration on:**

**Saturday, November 14, 2:00 p.m.**

**WLPCS Decatur Campus**

**Please RSVP via E-vite (check your email) or Amina Wilkins, [blkinfo@erols.com](mailto:blkinfo@erols.com) or Deb Moss 202.368.4889**

*Can't attend? Please support WLPCS by shopping online.*

*Order now through November 15 at: [www.pamperedchef.biz/fulton](http://www.pamperedchef.biz/fulton)*

Select "Shop Online," key in "WLPCS" as host/org, and select items!

- **15% of sales will benefit Washington Latin PCS**
- **An additional \$3 will be donated for bookings.**



November Guest  
Special:  
**20% off Simple**



*Heide Fulton, Consultant 202.631.6211 [hmbronke@gmail.com](mailto:hmbronke@gmail.com)*

Orders may be shipped directly to anywhere in the U.S., our territories, and APO/FPO's and are scheduled to arrive by the end of November, 2009.





### III. LION SPORT REPORT

The Washington Latin PCS Department of Physical Education and Athletics will be selling beautiful poinsettias in many sizes and colors, as a fundraiser for equipment needs, etc. These magnificent Maryland greenhouse grown poinsettias will make a spectacular addition to any holiday setting. They also make wonderful gifts!



#### ○ **GPS Units Needed**

**Latin Athletics are looking for a donation of two (2) GPS units to use for the upcoming Basketball season. In an effort to control expenses, we will be utilizing vans that the coaches will be driving and a little navigational assistance will be much appreciated. Contact Mr. Bettencourt if you can help!!**

#### Lower School Physical Education

**PARENTS – The weather is getting colder and we will still be outside. If your child does not have the Latin Sweatshirt and Sweatpants, please send money with your child to purchase them. They are \$15.00 per piece.**

**Students may wear another layer OVER their sweats, if necessary.**

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Grades Explained

The Grades may appear a bit different than what was explained on Back-to-School Night. The same five categories were used, but a number was assigned to the equivalent grade. Each category was based on 20 points. Students received a final percentage, and letter grade, based upon their point total from the five categories.

The five categories used to assess each student in Physical Education and Health are:

##### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

1. Pays attention to class instruction and follows directions
2. Sustains participation throughout physical activity.
3. Works up to physical potential.
4. Applies basic rules and strategies in individual and group activities.
5. Demonstrates respect for others and a positive attitude.

##### Grade

C – Consistently – 20 Points

U – Usually – 17 Points

R – Rarely – 15 Points

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

1. Pays attention to class instruction and follows directions.
2. Sustains participation throughout physical activity.
3. Works up to physical potential.
4. Applies instructional concepts and strategies in intramural play.
5. Displays good sportsmanship, respect to others and a positive attitude.

### Grade

C – Consistently – 20 Points

U – Usually – 17 Points

R – Rarely – 15 Points

**\*A copy of their scores in each category will be given out in your child's next health class.**

What is happening this week in PE...

5th Grade

PE – Chasing and Fleeing Games / Frisbee

Health – Nutrition

6<sup>th</sup> Grade

PE – Ultimate Frisbee

Health – Nutrition

## **Latin Athletics**

### **Upper School**

The following activities will be offered to students in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grades:

- Boys JV Basketball – TBD – Try-Out REQUIRED
- Girls JV Basketball – starts Monday, November 9 – Try-Out REQUIRED
- Winter Conditioning – starts Monday, January 4
- Dance – starts Monday, January 4
- Cheer – start date TBD

Basketball rosters will be no larger than 12 players. All other activities may limit numbers due to space and safety concerns.

### **Middle School**

The following activities will be offered to students in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades:

- Boys MS Basketball – starts Monday, January 4 – Try-Out REQUIRED
- Girls MS Basketball – starts Monday, January 4 – Try-Out REQUIRED
- Winter Conditioning – starts Monday, January 4

Basketball rosters will be no larger than 12 players.

Coaches of all programs will have clear expectations and rules, in addition to the ones outlined in the Handbook, that all participants will be expected to follow. Please review the Athletics Section of the Handbook before signing up for the season.

- ***Please check [www.highschoolsports.net](http://www.highschoolsports.net) for upcoming games and practice schedules, directions, etc.***

## Upcoming Schedules

### **Cross Country**

Coed Junior Varsity

Saturday                      11/14/09    DC/MD State Championships                      Away    11:00AM

Coed Middle School

Thursday                      11/12/09    Landon Invitational                      Away    3:00PM

### **Soccer**

Boys Junior Varsity

Thursday                      11/5/09    Landon School                      Away    4:00PM

Boys Middle School                      Season Complete

Girls Junior Varsity                      Season Complete

Girls Middle School                      Season Complete

Flag Football                      Season Complete

## IV. AROUND TOWN

### **Tree Lighting Ceremony Tickets**

Because there was so much interest in the White House Easter Egg Roll, I thought many of you would like to know about how to get tree lighting tickets this year. Go <http://www.thenationaltree.org>. Ticket distribution is going to be by Internet and phone and they've added 7,000 standing room places.

P.S. If you are not able to get tickets, there are many area alternatives including the Old Town tree lighting in late November, the US Capitol tree on December 8 and the Union Station tree on December 3. All are wonderful ceremonies and beautiful trees.

# AMERICAN YOUTH CHORUS

David Simmons, artistic director

## FALL CONCERT

*Raising Our Voices In Song*

*Opening its second season, the American Youth Chorus lifts its voice in a spirited program featuring songs from across the ages and around the world.*

**Saturday, November 21, 2009 • 8:00 pm**

The Atlas Performing Arts Center  
1333 H Street, NE • Washington, DC 20002

Tickets - \$15 (Seniors and Students ages 6 to 15 - \$10)

[www.atlasarts.org](http://www.atlasarts.org) or at 202-399-7993, x2

[WWW.AMERICANYOUTHCHORUS.ORG](http://WWW.AMERICANYOUTHCHORUS.ORG)

# November 2009

| Sun | Mon                  | Tue                                            | Wed                                                                                                                                       | Thu                                                       | Fri                                                                                                                                        | Sat                                                           |
|-----|----------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1   | 2                    | 3                                              | 4                                                                                                                                         | 5<br>Poetry Night/Open<br>Mic – Upper School<br>@ 7:00 pm | 6<br>8:30am – MS Walk<br>for the Homeless<br><br>2:15 US Walk for<br>the Homeless                                                          | 7                                                             |
| 8   | 9                    | 10                                             | 11<br>Veterans' Day<br>No School<br><hr/> 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parents<br>Meeting re: US<br>Curriculum,<br>Decatur Campus<br>6:30-8:00pm | 12                                                        | 13<br>10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field<br>Trip - American Art<br>Museum<br><hr/> PA sponsored<br>Game Night –<br>Decatur Campus<br>6:30-8:30pm | 14<br>Pampered Chef<br>Fundraiser<br>Decatur Campus<br>2:00pm |
| 15  | 16                   | 17<br>Charter Board<br>Program Review          | 18<br>Banking & Finance<br>5:15 – 7:00<br>Upper School                                                                                    | 19                                                        | 20                                                                                                                                         | 21                                                            |
| 22  | 23                   | 24<br>Noon Dismissal for<br>Thanksgiving Break | 25                                                                                                                                        | 26<br>Thanksgiving Day                                    | 27                                                                                                                                         | 28                                                            |
| 29  | 30<br>Classes Resume |                                                |                                                                                                                                           |                                                           |                                                                                                                                            |                                                               |