



From the Headmaster: Mr C. Hyde-Dunn, MA(Oxon), PGCE, MA(Ed.), NPQH

Letter to parents of boys in Year 7 studying Latin

Friday 30 January 2015

Dear Parents,

Cambridge Latin Course

As you are no doubt aware, your son is currently following the Cambridge Latin Course as part of their studies at Abingdon Preparatory School. The University of Cambridge currently runs a scheme which gives pupils the opportunity to have their progress in the subject officially accredited with a certificate from the Cambridge Schools Classic Project. Your son is now approaching the end of Stage 12 of the Cambridge Latin Course, the point at which the first set of examinations for such a certificate can be taken. It is planned that your son will take these in the week commencing 9 February 2015.

Your sons will take two tests, one which asks them questions assessing their understanding of a Latin text and another on the historical background to this text. Provided a certain number of marks are achieved (60%), they pass the test and receive their certificate. The scheme has been very successful in previous years and provides boys with a series of manageable and worthwhile short-term goals which helps to motivate them in their study of Latin.

In order to maximize their performance, it will be certainly beneficial for your son to re-visit the history sections of the following stages of the Cambridge Latin Course:

Stage 9 – Bathhouses / Stage 10 - Schools and Education / Stage 11 - Local Government and Elections / Stage 12 - The destruction of Pompeii

In the history test, it will not be necessary for your son to have a very precise knowledge of the minutiae of these topics, but rather a general understanding of the historical background to the texts that have been studied.

It may also be worthwhile for your son to re-visit some of the vocabulary that he has encountered, particularly that which he may have come across in Year 6. Vocabulary lists, as well as grammar revision notes, have been posted on 'Firefly', the school's virtual learning environment, which your son has access to. An online vocabulary tester, which can be customized, is also available at:-

<http://www.cambridgescp.com/singles/vt/vocuk1.html?mn=483948>

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This has proven to be a useful tool for pupils in their study of Latin vocabulary.
If you have any questions, please do contact me at:-
robert.shaw@abingdonprep.org.uk

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Shaw". The script is cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Rob Shaw