

# AMBLESIDE OCALA

December 2017

Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up, do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." Isaiah 43:18-19



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Join Us For Our  
Christmas Chapel  
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**Ambleside**  
SCHOOL OF OCALA

"The world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for our senses to grow sharper." ~W. B. Yeats

## Families with Rising Kindergarteners

Any Ambleside families with a rising Kindergartener for the 2018-2019 class should let Esther Maitha know by January 26th to reserve their spot.

Open enrollment for any remaining spots opens at the end of January.

"The mystery of a person, indeed, in ever divine, to him that has a sense for the godlike." ~ Carlyle

This week, teachers from around the country are gathered on our campus with for an internship with Ambleside Schools International under the leadership of Dr. Bill St. Cyr. The goal of this training is to help them acquire a more comprehensive view of an Ambleside education and the philosophy behind it. After study and discussion of Charlotte Mason's philosophy, interns spent time observing in classrooms and discussing the lessons they observed together.

How grateful I am for this precious community- students, teachers, families' alike. I am also struck by a sense of belonging to a much bigger picture-- the schools and communities that make up the entire ASI network worldwide. I'm awestruck by the ways God has woven the threads of our guests into the growing tapestry of the work, and I give thanks for the fullness of life found in following Christ our Savior.

For the children's sake, Jill Romine, principal



## PVA

We need your help to make the 12th Annual Father-Daughter Dance a success! Just a reminder each family is responsible for securing \$250 in sponsorships for the dance. Please let us know which businesses we can credit to your family sponsorship. If you need help contacting businesses our committee members (Misty Kinsey, Tyler Emmons, Leslie Simpson and Heather Richards) are happy to help you.

This is our only fundraiser and the funds raised this year will go towards the refurbishment of the ASO High School building, adding a pavilion to our lunch area and as always to cover any expected fiscal shortfalls in our operating expenses as we continue to provide a life-giving, Christ-centered education for our students.

## Dates & Details

Fri - Dec 1st - Kindergarten Information Meeting 11:00-12:30  
Fri - Dec 8th - Exams Go Home For Review  
Wed - Dec 13th - Exams Due Back To School

Fri - Dec 15th - Grandparents Day 8:00 - 10:00am/Caroling/Early Release At Noon/Christmas Chapel 6:30pm  
Fri - Dec 18th - Dec 30th - Christmas Break  
\* Instruction Resumes on Wed, Jan 3rd

Mrs. Owens 4th Grade  
Service Project



# Upcoming Events

## What You Need To Know

### Friday, December 15th:

- 8:00-9:45 am - Grandparent Observation Day - Please invite Grandparents to spend time with us in classrooms, and then join us for caroling.
- 9:45-10:15 am - Classroom Christmas Gathering (All Parents/ Grandparents Welcome)
- 10:15-11:45 am - In preparation for the holiday, students go caroling in Citizens Circle.
- 6:30-7:30 pm - Christmas Chapel - All students participate in and lead a Christmas worship service, open to the public, before the holiday break begins. Students should report to Parish Hall in their holiday best at 6:00 pm.
- Christmas Chapel - To accommodate our school's growth, this year students will all sit together in Parish Hall to create more seating for families in the Sanctuary. Students will be led into the church when it's time for their songs/recitations, and all students will experience the beauty of the service via a live feed in Parish Hall. At the end of the evening, families will gather to sing carols together in the courtyard, concluding with our tradition of singing "Silent Night" with candlelight. More details will follow. Christmas Chapel attire is more formal for students.

**Grace School of the Arts:** Please join us for student recitals, Monday, December 4, at 6pm and Monday, December 11, at 6pm.

**Holiday Shopping** - As you begin any online holiday shopping, PLEASE REMEMBER to use the Amazon Portal on our Events Tab on the website.  
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/30-0178066>

**Did you know...** Just as it is the case with ASO high school students, our middle school students are eligible to participate in sports programs at their zoned middle school. Parents need to reach out to the school's athletic director for more information on their programs.

**Yoga Class:** Tuesday & Friday evenings, 4:00 - 5:00pm in Parish Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Dicks at 352-615-9790.

Friday December 1  
Tuesday December 5  
Friday December 8  
Tuesday December 12

**Track:** Practice starts January 10th for 4th-8th grade from 3:15-4:30pm. Practices will be at Osceola Middle School. Track Meet in March. Pick up your registration forms in the main office.

### Mark your Calendars:

Ambleside High School  
Informational Meeting  
for any interested  
families

March 27 at 6:00 pm.

## "Conversation Starters"

### Ideas and Topics from the Classroom

**Kindergarten:** Poetry - recite "Little Bird" by Mother Goose.

Phonics - Recite alphabet with letter name and sound.

#### 1st & 2nd Grades:

**1st:** Tell back about the John James Audubon reproduction in our purple books.

**2nd:** In Tales and Fables we read about the Selfish Giant. What did he learn when he stopped being selfish? How can we become less selfish?

#### 3rd & 4th Grades:

**3rd:** How does Impressionism reflect emotions like in Renoir's painting, Dance at Bougival?

**4th:** Literature- In Heidi, tell about the night there was a ghost in the house!

#### 5th & 6th Grades:

**5th:** Tell about your favorite painting by J.M.W. Turner. Why is this your favorite? Tell about you favorite poem by William Wordsworth. Why is this your favorite?

**6th:** Tell back the ending of Treasure Island. What consequences did pursuing treasure have for the characters?

#### 7th & 8th Grades:

**7th:** What is the Instructed Conscience that Charlotte Mason talks about in Ourselves?

Who was Frederick Douglass and what do you know about his life as a slave?

**8th:** Tell how the heart works to pump blood to the lungs and throughout the body. What is most interesting to you about the heart?

Tell the series, "My Christmas List" in Spanish and English. From grammar tell the difference between a clause and phase.

4H	Yearbook	Philosophy Club	Library
<p><u>4H</u></p> <p>December 13th: 3:15 - 4:30</p> <p>Future meetings held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.</p> <p>Contact: Kim Dinkins 352-895-8693</p>	<p><u>Yearbook</u></p> <p>Tuesday, Dec 5th &amp; Tuesday, Dec 12th 3:15 - 4:00pm</p> <p>Contact: Debbie Ayton 352-502-2408</p>	<p><u>8th Grade Philosophy Club</u></p> <p>The book is called <u>Sophie's World</u> by <u>Jostein Gaarder</u>.</p> <p>Dec. 8 - Ch. 13-16 Jan. 11 - Ch. 19-21 Feb 15 - Ch. 22-24 March 8 - Ch. 25-28 April 12 - Ch. 29-31 May 10 - Ch. 32-35</p> <p>Contact: Stephen Zedler <a href="mailto:stephen.zedler@gmail.com">stephen.zedler@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>Monday, Dec 11th K-3rd Grade</p> <p>Contact: Amber Martin 352-266-8037</p>
Basketball	Games	Cheerleading	Service Projects
<p>Practice: 7th &amp; 8th grade</p> <p>Mon, Tues, Thurs &amp; Fri</p> <p>Coch Todd Charske 937-272-5500</p>	<p>Games:</p> <p>Dec 4th - 5pm Queen of Peace Gainesville</p> <p>Dec 5th - Heart Home School - Silver Springs Shores Presbyterian Church - Ocala</p> <p>Dec 7th - 5pm St Patrick Catholic Ocala</p> <p>Dec 11th - 4pm Grace Christian School</p> <p>Dec 14th - 4pm The Rock School Gainesville</p>	<p>Cheerleading Practice:</p> <p>Tuesday &amp; Thursday After school at Ambleside 3-5 pm</p> <p>Coaches: Lindsay Taylor 850-346-5256 Heather Richards 352-427-4651</p>	<p>Thursday, Dec 14th 10:30am - 12:00pm</p> <p>4th Grade Dignity Center</p>





# Ambleside Boy's Basketball Team

by Tyler Emmons

In November our Ambleside Boy's Basketball team played in its first official game. Our worthy first opponent were the St. John Saints, who expected to enjoy a certain home court advantage. I happened to attend St. John myself, from 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and walking in to the gym for our recent matchup brought back great memories of the 12 or maybe even 24 total points that I scored during my high school basketball career.

At the start of the game our players were perhaps a bit nervous but were certainly comforted and filled with confidence by the support of the crowd that came to cheer them on. By the second half of the game we were starting to gain some good momentum and the team showed poise and played great defense. By the end of the game the Ambleside Skylarks had persisted and prevailed with a somewhat surprising but very well deserved win in overtime. The boys played their hearts out, did a great job of working together, communicating well and listening to the guidance from their coaches. But just as remarkable as the game itself, was the crowd support. My friends and family that were sitting on the St. John side of the gym have all commented on the enthusiasm and rousing cheers that the Ambleside crowd gave (you know who you are, Josh Head). The entire event was thrilling and a lot of fun. I think it was a fantastic example of what sports can be at its potential and a storybook first game.

When I reflect on that game day now the word that keeps surfacing in my mind is community. The heart that the team showed in their persistent effort during the game, the physical presence of the Ambleside crowd, and their vocal and enthusiastic cheers all were a small microcosm of a community. It is the same thing that stands out to me time and time again when I spend time with the people that make up this school. This is a real community, the kind that I think God wants for us and created us to be a part of! I was initially shocked at the amount of people that showed up to support the team. I should not have been, it is the same support I see on campus on a daily basis as the staff cares for these students, as the parents care for one another, as the students care for each other.

While I truly love the Ambleside community, we are all part of many small communities here in Ocala; our churches, our workplaces, our neighborhoods, our city. December has now arrived and we celebrate the arrival of our Savior, who also happens to be our biggest cheerleader. This month especially I hope that we carve time out of our hectic schedules to cheer on someone who needs it, to share the joy that Christ has given us with those in our community.

Go Skylarks!

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. <sup>10</sup> Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup> Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, <sup>12</sup> serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. <sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Romans 12 ESV