

# AMBLESIDE OCALA

September 2017



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Solar Eclipse  
August 21, 2017  
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**Ambleside**  
SCHOOL OF OCALA

*There can be no joy in living without joy in work. ~ Thomas Aquinas*

## Working for the Children's Sake

All too often, when people think of work, they think of it not as a gift but a burden; something to get through, something that exists to enable leisure activities. Entertainment and play are the imagined real stuff of life. For many, the work of school evokes the same negative thoughts. While there may be glee at the opportunity to play and enthusiasm for a favorite subject or two, any real work requiring effort evokes sighs and feelings of dread. For too many children, returning to school means drudgery, the passing of time, longing for the weekend ahead, a missing out on the present.

Bill and I had the privilege to be on campus this week visiting your

children's classes. It was delightful to witness the enthusiastic engagement present throughout the school, from kindergarten through eighth grades. Every day, in every class, children were being brought up in the habits of a joyful, fruitful, virtuous life: introducing themselves to visitors on campus, befriending a new student at play, checking mathematics, following directions for writing a lowercase *p*, attending to Handel's "Minuet I," appreciating the imagery in Whitman's poetry, mapping Canada's territories and provinces, matching the pitch of "Holy, Holy," observing a plant "building itself" through photosynthesis, and hearing the story of the King of Nineveh's repentance in the book of Jonah, to name a few.

At Ambleside, teachers are renewing children's attitudes towards learning and work by providing a broad, rich curriculum; sixteen to eighteen subjects filled with engaging ideas and challenging tasks. It is work, but it is worthy. And, worthy work is essential to joyful living and maturity. ~ Maryellen St. Cyr

2017/2018 PVA Director: Leslie Simpson

Room Parents this year:

Kindergarten - Tyler Emmons  
First Grade - Lindsay Taylor  
Second Grade - Misty Kinsey  
Third Grade - Patrice Dewey  
Fourth Grade - Amber Martin  
Fifth Grade - Heather Richards  
Sixth Grade - Sherry Loria  
Seventh Grade - Meagan Williams  
Eighth Grade - Melissa Steed  
Arrowsmith - Renee Kreienbrink  
Communication - Kelly Lehman

## Dates & Details

Mon - Sept 4 - No School - Labor Day

Fri - Sept 8 - P/T Conference Sign Up Opens

Wed - Sept 13 - Early Release - Teacher In-Service

Wed - Sept 20 - Middle School Luncheon

Thur - Sept 21 - Early Release & P/T Conferences

Fri - Sept 22 - No School - P/T Conferences

Tues - Oct 10 - Campus Meeting - 5:30 - 7:30pm

Sun - Oct 29 - FAFO Performance - 2pm

# Upcoming Events

## What You Need To Know! Parent/Teacher Conferences-

**Early Release** on Sept. 21 & No School on Sept. 22. On September 8th, please sign up for a 30 min time slot at [signup.com](http://signup.com) with your child's(ren's) classroom teacher(s). Spanish, Art and Music conference times available upon request. Conferences will be held on Thursday afternoon, September 21 (early release) and Friday, September 22 (no school) and are required for both parents or guardians. 7 & 8 graders are required to attend with their parents. 6th Graders are required to attend the conference in January, 2018. Please make arrangements for off-campus childcare during conference times.

**In the event of a school closing due to severe weather**, we will notify you via the school-wide text service, calling post and email, as well as update our Facebook page.

## FAFO

All students will perform at FAFO on Sunday, October 29th at 2pm. Please make plans to attend.

## Middle School Upcoming Events

\* The first Middle School luncheon is September 20th, where students, mentors and teachers spend time building relationships over a meal.



MS2017

## A Chance to Purge, An Opportunity to Contribute

In memory of Rich Maitha and his love for music, Ambleside will be holding a yard sale on **Saturday, October 28** to raise funds for the newly established **Rich Maitha Music Scholarship**. The scholarship will help enable students with financial need to participate in music classes at Grace School of the Arts. If you would like to pitch in, please be gathering yard sale donations from your homes. These items may be dropped off at the school the week of October 23. Assistance will be available to pick up larger items if needed. For more information please contact Leslie Simpson at [361-4888](tel:361-4888) or [lsimpson@amblesideocala.com](mailto:lsimpson@amblesideocala.com).

**Volunteers** -We delight in the many parents & grandparents who volunteer time in the classroom, on field studies or on campus. As we continue to grow, a basic background screening is required for those interacting with students. Application forms are available in the office. 2 forms of ID and a \$30 check made out to Ambleside School are needed to complete the screening. Volunteer drivers are required to present proof of auto insurance. This needs to be completed before your child's first field study/service project.

## "Conversation Starters"

### Ideas and Topics from the Classroom

#### Kindergarten:

Tell back what is happening in our literature book, One Morning In Maine.

Name the lip poppers and tell which one is quiet and which one is the noisy brother (P,B).

#### 1st & 2nd Grades:

1st: Tell back about the poem, *The Whole Duty of Children*.

2nd: How are Pa, Ma, and Laura different than us? How are we the same?

#### 3rd & 4th Grades:

3rd: What are the characteristics of a dinosaur?

4th: Share what you know of our poet, Carl Sandburg and how he wrote the poem, *Fog*.

#### 5th & 6th Grades:

5th: Describe the history of Geology. Share about Robin Hood's first meeting with Little John.

6th: Tell back about the life of Admiral Horatio Nelson and the effect his death had for both the French and the British.

Why does Lawrence Beesley tell us that it is unfair to judge the reactions of those aboard the Titanic?

#### 7th & 8th Grades:

7th: What did Charlotte Mason mean by the term Mansoul? What is one way Solomon displayed his wisdom?

8th: What is maturity? How is acting with age-appropriate maturity foundational to a great school year?

Picture Study: What is a polymath? What was the real driving force behind Leonardo di ser Piero da Vinci's polymathy?

4H	Yearbook	Philosophy Club	Library
<p><u>4H</u></p> <p>Wednesday, Sept 13th 12:10pm</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>Yearbook - Every Tuesday 3:15-4:00pm.</p> <p>Applications going home with MS this week.</p> <p>Contact: Debbie Ayton 352-502-2408</p>	<p><u>8th Grade</u> <u>Philosophy Club</u></p> <p>The book is called <u><i>Sophie's World</i></u> by <u>Jostein Gaarder</u>. It is a novel that presents the major philosophical ideas of Western Civilization, from Socrates to modern psychology.</p> <p>August 24 - Chapters 1-4 Sept. 14 - Ch. 5-8 Oct. 12 - Ch. 9-12 Nov. 9 - Ch. 13-16 Dec. 8 - Ch. 16-18 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><u>Library</u></p> <p>Monday, Sept 25th - K-3rd Grades</p> <p>Contact: Amber Martin 352-266-8037</p>
AHS	Basketball	<p><b>Chapel Calendar Date Changes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veteran's Day Chapel will be held on Friday, November 10th</li> <li>• Martin Luther King Chapel will be held Friday, January 19th.</li> </ul>	
<p>The nearby building has been purchased.</p> <p>Current 8th graders and parents meeting Tuesday, October 17th.</p>	<p>7th &amp; 8th grade Basketball Team is currently practicing on Monday, 6:30 at One Life &amp; Friday , 4:00 at Blessed Trinity.</p> <p>Coach Todd Charske 937-272-5500</p>		

Registration Forms are in the office.

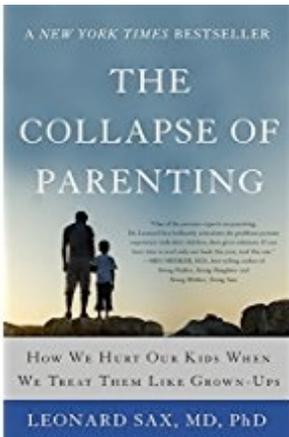
Please see Mrs. Ayton for more information.

Classes start the week of August 21st.



Private lessons in: Guitar, Voice, Piano, Ukulele, Mandolin  
Hand Percussion, Clarinet, Trumpet, Violin

## Collapse of Parenting - Parent Review



# Book Review

The Collapse of Parenting was a breath of fresh air in the culture we live in. It was comforting and edifying to have a pediatrician substantiate some parenting beliefs we already held with facts and studies. To hear someone say, this is the right way, and here are real stories, was encouraging and sobering.

One of the things that Leonard Sax discusses is the idea that parents must have and keep appropriate authority. While we have a duty to prepare our children to be functioning adults, the way to this is to provide appropriate boundaries and modeling throughout childhood and adolescence, not to throw them into making adult decisions before they are prepared to do so. Sax examines a current trend of role confusion by parents stating that, "Parents are reluctant to change the rules... They are unsure what authority they ought to have and how to exercise it." The relief comes when Sax, who leaves no discussed problem unanswered, says, "What does it mean to assert your authority as a parent? It doesn't necessarily mean being a tough disciplinarian. Among other things, it means ensuring that the parent-child relationship take priority over the relationships between the child and her or his same-age peers. It means that parents are doing their job... of teaching the child how to behave both within and outside the family unit."

My husband and I had several conversations about our parenting approach and consistency after reading the book. As we parent our children, it is important to maintain the appropriate authority across the board while enjoying who we are and who our children are. Balancing their autonomy and our authority seems to be at the core of what Sax explains. As he discusses in the Solutions section of the book, it is our duty to pay attention, provide support and boundaries, and be an example of the person we are training our children to become. "Raising your child to know and care about virtue and character is not a special extra credit assignment reserved for the superior parent. It is mandatory for all parents. And when you are given a mandatory assignment, you must do your best, regardless of your own shortcomings." If we are to be the example, then we must exhibit the qualities we want to see in our children; 1 Cor 11:1 Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

By Amber Martin  
Ambleside Parent  
Ambleside Librarian