**Description of the 6th Grade Latin Class**:

* All 6th graders take ‘Introduction to Latin.’  This class is an introduction to the Greco-Roman world.  It is not an intensive study of the Latin language.
* The class only meets once a week for 65 minutes.
* A variety of different topics are covered during the year:  basics of the Latin language, mythology, ancient history & geography, Roman culture, English derivatives from Latin words, and more.
* There are 2 texts:  the popular Greek Mythology and In Search of a Homeland (an abridged version of Vergil’s Aeneid). Other materials will be provided through handouts and study packets.
* Bulletin Board on the Portal contains all the information about the class, including the goals of the class, grading policy, late homework penalties, and the quiz retake policy.

**After School Latin for 6th graders**:  An ‘After School Latin’ program is offered to any interested 6th graders.  It is completely voluntary; there are no graded assignments; students can attend none of the sessions or just a few or every single one.  There is a ‘6th Grade After School Latin’ every few weeks.  Each one is 3:15-4:15 in my room.  Dates for these sessions will be posted on the Portal and emailed to students and parents.  Topics will include:  the origin of the name ‘Cincinnati,’ famous quotes by Julius Caesar, Gladiators, and more.  No need to sign up, just show up!

* **THE 1ST SESSION WILL BE WED AUG 30, 3:15-4:15 – the origin of the name ‘Cincinnati.’**

**3 National Competitions:** 6th graders will have the opportunity to take 3 national exams:  the Pegasus Mythology Exam (Feb), the Exploratory Latin Exam (March), and the Classical Literacy Exam (May). These exams offer prizes (ribbons, certificates, medals) for top scorers.  Summit has always numerous winners, and the prizes really give students a sense of accomplishment and pride.

**On Thursday Nov 2nd, there will be our 26th annual ‘Celebration of the Classics.’**

* The event rotates between 4 influential works of classical literature: Homer’s Iliad, Homer’s Odyssey, Vergil’s Aeneid, and Ovid’s Metamorphoses.
* This year, the event will focus on 14 stories from Vergil’s Aeneid.  The Latin poet Vergil wrote this epic poem in the 1st century BC during the reign of the emperor Augustus.  It tells the story of the Fall of Troy and Aeneas’ quest to find a new home for his Trojan people. This poem contains a number of famous passages: [the death of Laocoon and his sons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laoco%C3%B6n_and_His_Sons), [the tragedy of Dido](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dido), and [Aeneas’ journey to the Underworld](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Golden_Bough_(mythology)).
* The event includes art projects, student presentations, and ‘Jeopardy!’-style competitions.  ALL LATIN STUDENTS WILL COMPLETE A PROJECT FOR THIS EVENT – DUE DATE IS TUES OCT 31.

**General Information about the Summit Latin Program**

**The Latin teachers**:  Larry Dean and Lisa Mays are the 2 Latin teachers at The Summit.  Larry is beginning his 25th year here at Summit, and Lisa is starting her 8th year.

Larry teaches 2 MS and 3 US classes:

* MS - 3 sections of the 6th grade ‘Intro to Latin’ (65 minutes, once a week)
* MS – 8th grade Latin
* US – CP/Honors Latin 3
* US – CP/Honors Latin 4
* US – AP Latin

Lisa teaches 1 MS and 4 US classes:

* MS – 7th grade Latin
* US – CP Latin 1
* US – CP Latin 2
* US - Honors Latin 2
* US – Ancient Greek (12th grade elective)

**Students who begin in 6th grade and choose to take Latin as their World Language will have Larry or Lisa as their teacher for 7 years!  This continuity of instruction is one of the strengths of the Latin program because we really get to know each individual student.**

**Latin at The Summit**:

* All 6th graders take ‘Intro to Latin’ (which meets once a week).
* In 7th-12th grades, students choose their language of study.
* 28 7th/8th grade students take Latin (25%), and 49 US students take Latin (14%).
* All students are required to take at least 3 years of an US language or 2 years of 2 US languages; most take 4 years of the same language.
* Students in the 11th and 12th grades can take the AP Latin course.
* Honors Ancient Greek is available to seniors.

**The Latin Club**:  All 7th-12th grade Latin students can participate in Latin Club events.  All events will be announced in class and emailed in advance to students & parents.  Events range from academic to artistic to social to service (we usually do hundreds of community service hours each year).

**Latin Honor Society**:  The Latin Honor Society is an honorary organization for students who have exhibited excellence in the study of the Latin language.  The annual induction into the LHS occurs in May.  Students in the Latin Honor Society must:

* maintain an “A” average in Latin through the first 3 quarters
* demonstrate dedication and enthusiasm for the language
* participate in at least 4 events sponsored by the Latin Club (service activities count double)

**Academic Competitions**:  The Latin program offers students a number of opportunities to be recognized for their academic achievements. All of these exams offer prizes (ribbons, certificates, medals, even cash!) for top scorers.  Summit has always had a number of winners, and the prizes really give students a sense of accomplishment and pride.  Continued excellence on these exams can also produce college scholarships and chances for $$ – Tullus Dean (’17) received a $1500 Latin-sponsored scholarship for his first year at Xavier University; Joseph Delamerced (’18) won a $500 Cash Award for his excellence on the NJCL Online Exams; Julia Dean (’19) and Ryan Burns (’20) earned $4000 Latin-sponsored scholarships for their first year at the University of Cincinnati and the University of Pennsylvania; and Wali Khan (’23) earned a full scholarship to the University of Cincinnati through the Semple Scholars in the Classics program.

* Pegasus Mythology Exam
* Medusa Mythology Exam
* National Latin Exam
* National Greek Exam – 12th grade only
* National Classical Etymology Exam
* National Roman Civilization Exam
* National Latin Vocabulary Exam
* National Hellenic Exam
* ‘Classical Association of Middle and Western States’ Translation Contest
* Vergilian Society Sight Translation Exam
* Classical Literacy Exam

**Certamen**:  Certamen (which is a Latin word meaning ‘competition’) is a Jeopardy!-style game on all aspects of the classical world.  Competitions will be on Saturdays (from 9 am-11ish am) every month or so, and there will also be a few that take place after school or in the evening during the week; a state competition will be held in March during the State Convention; and a national competition will take place during the summer. The Summit Latin program has a proud tradition of excellence in certamen and has won many State Championships.

**Ohio Latin Convention**:  Each March, a group of about 30 Summit students spend a weekend in a hotel in Columbus with 400 other Ohio Latin students, and the entire weekend is devoted to the study of the Latin language.  Sounds like fun!  **This year, the convention will take place from Fri March 8 to Sun March 10.**  More information will be given out during the school year, but the Ohio Junior Classical League Convention is a wonderful opportunity for your child to earn awards (in academics, in graphic arts, and in performance arts) and to meet other students their age from around the state.  The Summit group always wins bunch of ribbons, medals, and trophies!  Summit has won the State Championship in Overall Points for 11 of the past 14 years!

**National Latin Convention**:  There is also a National Convention in the summer.  For my Instagram about the 2019 NJCL Convention at Miami University (OH), click here:  <https://www.instagram.com/larry81dean/>.   **In 2024, the national convention will be at the University of Tennessee (Knoxville TN) from July 22 - 27, 2024.**