



Oratio

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The Standard

A publication of St. Andrew's Academy

Lindisfarne House

Our first faculty intern ever and the last of the interns to arrive this fall was Mr. Jared Tomlinson, from Toronto, Canada. A native of Toronto and graduate of York University with a B.F.A., Spec. Hons. Music degree, Jared is the composer of numerous choral works and short film scores. Most notably, his *Mass of St. Mary Magdalene* was the winning entry in The Church of St. Mary Magdalene's international competition for a new choral setting of the Mass, held in celebration of the historic Toronto parish's 125th anniversary.

Jared grew up in Canada with dual Canadian and American citizenship, the oldest of four children in a pastor's family. He has scored several films in collaboration with his brother, filmmaker Seth Tomlinson, including *Cautionary Tales for Children*, which screened at numerous film festivals, including the BAFTA qualifying Aesthetica Short Film Festival in York, England. While an intern at St. Andrew's, he is teaching grammar school composition and middle school Bible, playing organ for Christ the Redeemer Church and St. Andrew's Church, assisting in the choir class, composing, and all the while stubbornly continuing to say "zed" and "washroom."

Miss Chloe Cunningham joined Lindisfarne House this past September, coming most recently from Fernandina Beach, Florida. California is the seventh state and the boarding house is the tenth house she has inhabited during her eighteen years of life. Her father is an Anglican priest and church planter, mostly located in the Southern states. She has found California to be very different from the South, and is enjoying being immersed in a different culture!

Chloe enjoys visiting new places immensely and traveling is one of her favorite things. She also spends a lot of time drawing, and is currently dedicating most of her art time to doodling comics. She

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Summer Camps 2014

This past July and early August, St. Andrew's Academy held its second annual Summer Academic Camps. One camp was focused on choir, and the other on writing and science. Both were even better attended this year than last, both by local and out-of-town students.

Choir camp welcomed back several of last year's instructors, including Jeff and Anna Cooper. The Coopers are recent graduates of Notre Dame University with Master's degrees in music, and have recently moved to Houston, Texas. Mr. Cooper's focus is organ, and Mrs. Cooper's is voice. This fall they also welcomed their first child, a daughter. (Congratulations to the Coopers!)



Photo: Father Foon leads Choristers to Matins at St. Andrew's Choir Camp.

With other musicians to direct the choirs and play organ, Father Brian Foon, headmaster of St. Andrew's, was able to join the choir as tenor. He also conducted morning and evening prayer services, and Eucharist when it was held. Along with the Coopers and Father Foon, Mrs. Kate Gremillon was an adjunct instructor this year, from Newport Beach, California. She holds a Master's of Music from Indiana University and is married to Randall, who is also a musician. The Gremillons brought several choristers, including their own children, from St. Matthew's Anglican Church choir in Newport Beach.

Forty-eight choristers total sang services every morning and evening, and practiced during the day as well, with the final services—the goal of their week's work—on Saturday and Sunday. Community members were invited to attend the services, and several very obligingly did!

The following week was Science and Writing Camp. This camp was a mixture of environmental science study and writing instruction for upper grammar school, middle school, and high

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Houston, We Have Lift Off

by
John Seel, Ph.D.

Space exploration is back in the news. On August 22, SpaceX's Falcon 9-R exploded moments after lift off. On October 31, the Virgin Galactic SpaceShipTwo also exploded moments after its release from its mother ship, killing the test pilot. On December 6, NASA successfully launched its Orion rocket, the next generation launch vehicle for manned space exploration. Launching rockets is an inherently dangerous endeavor. There have been 19 astronaut and cosmonaut fatalities in the history of spaceflight. The rockets are full of combustible fuel, and small deviations in navigation can lead to disastrous trajectories. It represents a volatile mixture of power and potential.

So too is the launching of a child.

Whatever the risks, it is worth remembering that the purpose of a rocket is not to sit safely on the launch pad. As 19th century theologian John Shedd observed, "A ship in a harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are for." The purpose of parenting is to launch one's child into the tumult of adult life and the risks of the wider world. To over-protect, over-coddle, over-parent is not to be faithful to the task of parenting, but to distort it and to damage the potential of one's child. The womb is a safe place, but it is not healthy for a child to stay there. The home is a safe place, but it is not psychologically healthy for a child to stay there either. The purpose of parenting is to launch one's child successfully into the world. Cut the umbilical cord and let them go.

That established, the central question is how to do make this launching successful.

Let's start with two observations. First, we're not launching our children very well today. We either over coddle or simply neglect them. Disasters are common.

Second, there is a growing list of

potential dangers facing children that were not as common before the advent of the Internet and cellphones. As a parent, the world seems scarier. I'm a grandparent now, and I worry about the world that my four grandchildren are

Rather it tests every step repeatedly. Their mantra is fail fast, learn often.

We need our children to fail fast so as to learn quickly before the consequences of failing are at their highest. Launching them for the first time as freshmen in college is a little late for the lessons they should have learn in middle school and high school. And the price tags in college are often higher than a thwarted education.

It is for this reason that I am a passionate advocate for boarding school education. It is a test flight of adolescent independence in a safe place. Rather than being an abdication of one's responsibilities as a parent, deciding to send one's children to a board school is the fulfillment of them. Certainly, not every boarding school is a safe place (and choosing a good one is a worthy topic for another article), but the concept of letting our pre-adult children learn to live on their own, make their own decisions, manage their own time, live within the reality of a social place outside the home is exactly what too few children have the opportunity to experience. Their maturity is thwarted as a consequence of our over caution.

Of course, there will be tears and homesickness. And there are legions of examples of bad experiences. Nonetheless, the principle remains. There is no way to learn to be independent as a child without being given incremental independence. Ships are not made to stay in harbor. Rockets are not meant to stay on their launch pad. And children are not meant to stay at home. It is time to let them soar. Houston, we have lift off.

Dr. John Seel is the Director of Cultural Engagement at the John Templeton Foundation. He is also a long time member of the St. Andrew's Advisory Board, and serves as the College Counselor for St. Andrew's Academy.



Lift off for the Falcon 9 Rocket, by SpaceX, where our former Assistant Headmaster and current boarding dad works.

entering—a world filled with selfies and sexting and the like.

The answer to this question of launching our children successfully is counter-intuitive, but follows naturally from the lessons of space exploration. We must increasingly give our children more and more independence, in effect test flights, in a safe environment. SpaceX does not put together a rocket and see if it works.

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insists this is so she can practice drawing backgrounds and using different angles, but in actuality she just likes being goofy.

The oldest of 6 children, Chloe was homeschooled by her mother alongside her five younger siblings, and has found that her favorite subjects are Greek (and languages in general) and history. (So far, however, she has produced no historically-oriented Attic Greek comic strip.) She has held several different jobs in the past couple of years. She was a museum docent on a French colonial site and lived and worked in a Bed and Breakfast during her stay in Missouri. Prior to that she worked at an Asian restaurant. She speaks of all of these jobs with fondness, and especially relishes telling horror stories about them.



At St. Andrew's, Chloe answers the phones, processes and ships calendar orders, keeps the front office in order, and teaches Greek to first and second form. The St. Andrew's community is pleased to welcome Miss Cunningham!

ningham!

Peter Bartel arrived for Lindisfarne House's internship program in November of 2013, just after Thanksgiving, and now has just finished up his first year here. These past twelve

months for Peter have been full of dipping candles, making candle molds, pouring candles, troubleshooting existing molds, making more molds and pouring more candles. He also makes very good espresso drinks for the faculty, and often cooks them breakfast. Peter also puts together the weekly bulletin for St. Andrew's Anglican Church and reads lessons for Matins each school day. This Fall, he also took over as fencing coach at St. Andrew's.



Most recently, Peter became a lay reader in the Reformed Episcopal Diocese of the West, serving at St. Andrew's Church & Academy. He will now be able to conduct morning and evening prayer at St. Andrew's, and will continue reading lessons as he has been.

Peter plans to stay at St. Andrew's at least through the end of the school year, continuing to coach fencing, make candles, help with services, and serve in any way he can. St. Andrew's has appreciated his help in the past year very much!

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school-aged students. The emphasis was on the geological features of Lassen Volcanic National Park—an excellent place to learn about geology—and also on Yellowstone National Park and the effects of reintroducing wolves into that park. As the Lassen Park website notes, "Lassen Volcanic National Park is home to smoking fumaroles, meadows freckled with wildflowers, clear mountain lakes, and numerous volcanoes. Jagged peaks tell the story of its eruptive past while hot water continues to mold the land. Lassen Volcanic offers opportunities to discover the wonder and mysteries of volcanoes for visitors willing to explore the undiscovered." This home to geologic activity is a great opportunity right in our backyard for scientific discovery.

After learning so much, scientists

still have to communicate their discoveries clearly! As the students learned about the geology and ecology of a few of our national parks, they also practiced how better to express what they had learned. Teachers assigned essays and descriptive writing among other compositions, engaging students at their current skill levels, not necessarily grade levels, and bringing students further in their writing.

Camps aren't all about singing and science, however! Every day had lake time, with swimming and water-skiing; campers hiked the local area, went star-gazing one night, and played games in the evenings after dinner.

St. Andrew's hopes to continue these camps, to the benefit of local students and boarders alike. They are a great opportunity for summer growth and learning right here in the Almanor Basin.

Photos: left—Chloe Cunningham & Jared Tomlinson; above—Kent Bartel putting the Reader's Scarf on his son, Peter; bottom left—Full Choir from Choir Camp, summer 2014



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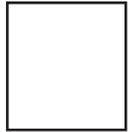


530-596-3343

office@standrewsalmanor.org

whithornpress.standrewsalmanor.org

St. Andrew's Academy
PO Box 3050
198 Main St.
Chester/Lake Almanor, CA 96020



Alumni News

Andrew and Amanda (Kelley) Bradley (2008) both finished their Master's degrees this December, at California State University at Monterey Bay. Their degrees are in Instructional Science and Technology, both focused on CCSS (Common Core State Standards) for teaching math to 4th grade, creating interactive computer learning modules for new teachers or those new to CCSS. Andrew and Amanda were married in 2011; as well as earning their Master's degrees, they have been teaching and have had a son and a daughter since then! Congratulations to Amanda and Andrew for their accomplishments and hard work.



Marc (2004) and Candice Duval welcomed their first child, a daughter, Emelia, this October. They traveled to snowy Lake Almanor this fourth Sunday in Advent, December 21, to have Emelia baptized by Father Foes at St. Andrew's Church. Marc, Candice and Emelia live in Anchorage, Alaska, where Marc serves in the army. Congratulations to Marc and Candice, and welcome, Emelia!

St. Andrew's Academy can be reached at:
Snail Mail: PO Box 3050
Chester/Lake Almanor, CA 96020
Phone: 530-596-3343
Email: admin@standrewsalmanor.org
Web: standrewsalmanor.org
Editor: Father Brian Foes

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Boys Wing Fundraiser

The Boys' Wing at the Boarding House is in need of some upgrades. Please consider giving a tax-deductible gift towards an estimated \$8000.00 renovation of bathroom, large closet, and upgraded den/study room for the young men of St. Andrew's!

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