



The Anderson Private School NEWSLETTER

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"Sparks electric only strike on souls electrical alike. The flash of intellect expires unless it meet congenial fires." (Hannah Moor)

PERSPECTIVES

of Dr. & Mrs. Anderson

The story of the Anderson Private School goes back many years. Back to 1955, when a little boy, who could not walk since birth, was suddenly set free from casts and splints up to his waist and taken on a far away journey to a place as near to paradise as he would ever be.

In that summer, his mother would let go of the hand of her only child and place him in the loving arms of another woman, whose embrace he still feels. That gracious lady chaired the English department at Abilene Christian College and operated a camp for children each summer at a remote bend in the Brazos called Thorp Spring. Her little piece of Heaven she named Camp Klebit, built on the site of what was Add-Rann College, later becoming Texas Christian University.

One cannot imagine what freedom truly is until you are six years of age, able to walk for the first time, and run with wild abandon in wide unimpeded spaces as fast as you can, with the wind in your hair, the sun warm upon your face and laughter pulsating from every fiber of your being. And then, suddenly to climb upon the back of a huge white stallion and ride off into the unknown, hanging on for dear life, dodging tree limbs, unable to even slow down this magnificent creature, on which you are precariously perched and ever loudly pleading for your life. Then, once granted a brief repose, spur it on again to imperil your life one more time.

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*- You can destroy your enemies
by making them your friends. -*
(Abraham Lincoln)

STUDY/FUN TRIPS

This semester, we have traveled afar in search of mystery, adventure and fun utilizing the vast resources of our community and state as our classroom.

We started our Fall activities by perusing treasures of the **Kimbell Art Museum**, viewing the movie, **"Second Hand Lion"**, and trekking to Glenn Rose to see the **Dinosaur Tracks**, visiting the **State Park Museum** and the **Creation Museum**.

We also spent a day at: the new **Modern Art Museum** and dined at their fabulous restaurant, the **Museum of the Americas** in Weatherford (a little know but real treasure), the **Granbury Opera House** for an outstanding production of, "The Homecoming", the **Museum of Science and History** including the **Omni Theater**, the **Palace of Wax** and **Ripley's Believe It or Not Museum** and the new **Main Street** for video games, bowling and pizza.

Trips to **bookstores** helped replenish our reading stocks and outstanding new movies such as **Master and Commander**, **Matrix Revolution** and **The Last Samurai** wrap up our travels.

Our plans for the second semester include trips to the Fort Worth Stock Show, the Tarrant County New Car Show (always a favorite), the Japanese and Botanical Gardens, the Fort Worth Nature Center, the Bat Sanctuary and the River Legacy Living Science Center, among others.

*- Trusting children and books
is a revolutionary act. Books are,
after all, dangerous stuff. Leave
a child alone with a book and you
don't know what might happen.. -*
(Susan Ohanian)

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan. 6 First Day of Spring Semester
Jan. 19 Martin King Holiday
Feb. 16 President's Day Holiday
Mar. 22 - 26 Spring Break Holiday
Apr. 5 - 8 Spring Adventure Trip
Apr. 9 & 12 Good Fri./Easter Holidays

*- This very moment is a seed
from which the flowers
of tomorrow's happiness grow. -*
(Margaret Lindsey)

AUSTIN ADVENTURE

Our week spent in the Capitol of this great state proved to be enlightening. There were several highlights including a marvelous opportunity to visit the **set of the new movie, "Cheer Up"**, directed by Stephen Herek, father of Samantha Herek. What a rare opportunity to see the actual filming of a major motion picture and visit with numerous people involved in the production.

Another highlight came with our tour of the **Texas Military Forces Museum**. This was an unexpected delight. It proved to be a fabulously endowed repository of militaria. Everyone was captivated by the inspiring collection and the warm reception provided by the staff. We also toured the **State Capitol** and spent time in the **Capital Visitor's Center**. We found the Governor's Mansion but alas, it was closed. This Governor did not greet and invite us in for a visit, as did his predecessor, which may be one reason he is now the President. A special surprise was discovering the **Daughters of the Republic Museum**. Our charming docents made us truly feel at home in the historical Republic of Texas.

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PERSPECTIVES, continued

And to go barefoot all the day long feeling the warmth of the sand under and between your toes, and to sun yourself on a huge flat rock in the middle of a river, while you garner the courage to swim for the first time. And then thrash and splash around until you feel you have not the strength to walk back to a cabin in which sleep never occurs.

After all, you must stay up late so you can go frog-gigging with the bigger kids, play pranks on the counselor (a gallon can of water suspended above the door always worked), and then to get lost in the middle of the night in the midst of paradise, while harboring the fervent hope to never return to reality again.

My mother came to get me after a couple of weeks. I know she was there. I heard her voice, but ran away, into the ravines, the trees and the vines and the flowers that had become a part me. I was not leaving!

**“... harboring
the fervent hope
to never return to
reality again.”**

The blessed Mrs. Watson, I later learned, kindly instructed my mother to leave me there and, at no further cost to her, since she could not afford more.

So I spent that entire summer, as well as the next two, fully living a life that one can only find again in dreams. Safe, cherished and with the absolute feeling of what I can only describe as pure joy – a warmth inside, and an intense anticipation that stays with you all day and night, and ultimately all your life.

I can truthfully say its discovery is unavailable to grown people. For only a child can know for certain that, Adam and Eve may have been evicted but, “I found *my way back*”.

And it is this joy, this purest feeling of unconditional love, of being cherished above all other things, of truly being happy, that Mrs. Anderson and I have sought to bequeath to children - to bestow a safe haven for the dispossessed of this birthright of youth, providing a second chance for happiness in an all too short childhood - a real home away from our home.

**“... pure joy –
a warmth inside,
and an intense anticipation
that stays with you
all day and night,
and ultimately,
all your life.”**

A place, unlike others, that ultimately lives in our hearts and our dreams. Dreams that pave the highway to tomorrow and create the courage to pass on a legacy of love that only joy can bring.

Dreams that become a refuge of remembrance – the sanctuary of our childhood, into which we retreat when so many of our desires have died. And there to rediscover the abundance of joy brought to us through the divine, in the gifts of our children.

*- The crisis of today is
the joke of tomorrow. -
(H. G. Wells)*

WELCOME TO . . .

*Jonathan Grable
Nicholas Lulofs &
Sam Brown*

*- He did not arrive at this
conclusion by the decent
process of quiet, logical
deduction, nor yet by the
blinding flash of glorious
intuition, but by the shoddy,
untidy process halfway between
the two by which one usually
gets to know things. -
(Margery Allingham)*

AUSTIN ADVENTURE cont'd

The week also included an evening watching 1½ million **bats** leave the famous bridge to dine on millions of insects, touring the **L.B.J. Library**, the Bob Bullock **Texas History Museum** and a special **live theatrical production** sponsored by Lady Bird Johnson.

Visit www.andersonschool.net for photos of this wonderful trip.

Our **Special thanks** to Julie Kline, Dr. Scott Stoll, Michael Johnson, and Tracy Herek for their assistance to the children.

Our gratitude also goes to Stephen and Samantha Herek. Without you, our remarkable adventures could not be possible.

*- Life lived for tomorrow
will always be just a day
away from being realized. -
(Leo Buscaglia)*

CAMPUS VISITATIONS

Parents or Guardians interested in visiting The Anderson Private School for the Gifted, Talented and Creative are asked to call **817-448-8484** for an appointment.

*- Every education teaches
a philosophy;
if not by dogma
then by suggestion,
by implication, by atmosphere.
Every part of that education
has a connection
with every other part.
If it does not all combine
to convey some
general view of life,
it is not education
at all. -
(G. K. Chesterton)*