

Greetings parents,

My name is Kelly Summers and I'll be leading your children through the beauty, wonders, and occasionally horrors of the Middle Ages. This will be the second time I've taught this class, and to tell a secret, it's my favorite.

As you heard yesterday, my family has relocated (hopefully temporarily) to Florida. Let me just say that I hate online learning, however, that is all I can offer your child this year. I am completely fine with giving your money back (I cashed no checks yet) if you decide that works better for your child.

I don't know all the things that will and will not be possible in the coming school year. Given the Covid ridiculousness, I suspect that much of this class may end up as virtual lectures anyway.

Please let know ASAP if you wish to withdraw your child from class. There will be no hard feelings!

Moving on!!!

I want your children to get something out of this class, but I don't want it to be a burden that conflicts with Latin, math, and Progym.

If I assign reading, it's because I consider it important, and want it to be reinforced at home.

Even if we end up mostly virtual, I think we should carry-on with the system of a binder and projects. I know that my kids struggled to stay mentally connected in the spring. The binder will provide tangible evidence of progress that is important for a feeling of accomplishment!

To that end for this class your child will need the following:

- 1) a 2 inch binder,
- 2) a good pair of scissors,
- 3) a good glue stick,
- 4) one roll of double-sided tape,
- 5) regular pencils or pens, and
- 6) a pack of colored pencils for the artistically inclined.

I am mindful that I have a high materials fee because of all the work/projects that I hand out, but if we end up in a virtual classroom then I will try to minimize the material that parents have to print.

Again, I am getting ready to crank up the printer for handouts that will go into the binder, so I need to know the number of kids in the class.

I am not going to assign any assignments over the summer, but if your family enjoys historic fiction then I cannot recommend enough the book "Augustine came to Kent" by Barbara Willard. It is a beautifully written, lovely family book to be read aloud.

https://www.amazon.com/Augustine-Came-Living-History-Library/dp/1883937213/ref=mp_s_a_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=augustine+came+to+kent&qid=1595604611&srefix=Augustine+came+to+Kent&sr=8-1

It will perfectly paint an understanding of early medieval Britain with an abandoned Roman society, renewed pagan worship, and the brave souls that brought the Catholic Church back into Western Europe.

It also has a young man coming of age, making hard decisions, and relying on the Lord. I can't recommend it enough.

If your child loves Vikings, then there is also "Beorn the proud," about a vain Viking boy whose life is changed by an Irish Christian girl captured in a raid.

Either book read before Christmas will really enhance their understanding of the times.

The good news is that since my old computer is about to crash I have purchased new technology which I am attempting to learn so that I can provide the best slideshows or virtual class possible.

Enjoy your summer and all the freedom that it brings.

Kelly Summers