



Classics for All

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO THE CLASSICS FOR ALL PRIMARY SCHOOLS FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER!

I hope you have had a good start to the term and you all had an enjoyable holiday! If you would like to be featured in the Newsletter this year at any point, please do get in touch via cfaschoolsupport@classicsforall.org.uk and let me know what you would like me to share with others! We love to hear quotes from children too!

SCHOOL OF THE MONTH!

ST LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL, FORMBY



St Luke's Church of England Primary School is an average sized school with 393 pupils on roll and an Ofsted grading of Good. The school introduced Latin to all of Key Stage 2 in 2018, and, despite some disruption during Covid, has been successfully teaching Latin using the Maximum Classics course since then. The school has also used Mega Greek with Year 6.

As the Year 6 pupils have been studying the Ancient Greeks this year, their teacher thought the Olympus Challenge would be a great opportunity to encourage the children to complete tasks and get more involved with their learning. They realised that many children are motivated by learning about the Greek Gods and the myths, so they used that as the basis for much of the work they chose to do.

They chose to do half a term looking at the history and legacy of the Ancient Greeks, over a term of Latin, and produced their own Ancient Greek style myths, based on Perseus and Medusa and Theseus and the Minotaur.

An incredible 63 pupils completed the Olympus Challenge! Huge congratulations to them all!

Perseus and the Cyclops

As darkness started to creep in, the moonlight fell over the forest of Aphrodite. You could feel the bygone footsteps of the past. Beside a tree two figures stood opposite each other hands attached. The trees started to dance as the wind sped up. The ferocious, gigantic and powerful beast in the distance, past the thorns had human bones galling out of its mouth. It could frighten anyone to death.

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CLASSICS FOR ALL UPCOMING CPD

KEY STAGE 2/3 ANCIENT HISTORY CPD

5th March 2025, 4-5pm, Online



A CPD Session to explore resources that can be used to incorporate Ancient History into your History teaching at KS2 and KS3. The session will be presented by three experienced teachers and practitioners: Gem Adams, on a 10 part course called “Why was ‘rex’ such a dirty word in Ancient Rome?”; Jane Ainsworth, on Life in the Roman World, resources to teach about local Roman History; Caroline Bristow, on Amarantus, a course based on a character in Pompeii.

For more information, and for the form to register for the CPD session, please see [this poster](#).

PRIMARY LATIN LEADS CPD SESSION

12th March 2025, 4-5pm, Online



Our next Primary Latin Leads Session will be held on 12th March, online, 4-5pm. This is a session for Primary Latin Leads, led by Primary Latin Leads in schools like yours!

There will be a range of short presentations on various aspects relating to being a Latin Lead, such as:

- Running a “Classics Week” and its benefits
- Vocabulous - feedback from a school, and hear how it works from Lucy Huelin, creator of Vocabulous
- Being a Trainer for CfA
- General Troubleshooting and CfA Support

For more information, and for the form to register for the CPD session, please see [this poster](#).



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NOTICE FROM THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION



REMINDER:

MYTHOLOGY COMPETITION FOR KEY STAGE 2

We are delighted to announce a Mythology Competition for school students, or those being home-educated, both in the UK and across the world, who are in Key Stages 2 and 3 (or equivalent) i.e. aged 7-14. This was previously the Minimus Mythology Competition run by the Primary Latin Project, and has now been brought under the aegis of the Classical Association.

Students are invited to submit a piece of Creative Writing, Art or an animation in response to all or a part of:

Key Stage 2: The Wooden Horse

Key Stage 3: Romulus and Remus



All details about the competition, and how to enter can be found [here](#).

WORD ROOT OF THE MONTH:

Where does our word “Bus” come from?



Our word “Bus” is a shortened form of “Omnibus” (what our buses used to be called), and “omnibus” is a Latin word, meaning “for everyone”. So an omnibus, or bus, is for everyone!

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EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Gladiators of Britain: A new British Museum touring exhibition

From January 2025, a new British Museum touring exhibition will explore the history of gladiators in Britain.

The events of the amphitheatre, with its wild beasts and enslaved fighters, are one of the most fascinating aspects of Roman culture that still capture the public imagination today. Visiting Dorchester, Northampton, Chester and Carlisle, Gladiators of Britain will bring together some of the country's most important objects to tell the story of Roman entertainment venues in Britain. Highlights will include the Colchester Vase loaned by Colchester Museums, which records an actual battle between two real gladiators, and the Hawkedon Helmet, the only confirmed piece of gladiatorial armour from Roman Britain. These iconic loans will be supported by a selection of other items that reveal the popularity of gladiators throughout Roman society.

A partnership with Colchester and Ipswich Museums, this family-friendly exhibition will explore Roman spectacle in the local region of each venue, following in the footsteps of gladiators around the UK.

A British Museum Partnership Exhibition Gladiators of Britain will be on display at Dorset Museum & Art Gallery, Dorchester (25 January – 11 May 2025); Northampton Museum & Art Gallery (24 May – 7 September 2025); Grosvenor Museum, Chester (20 September 2025 – 25 January 2026); and Tullie House Museum & Art Gallery, Carlisle (7 February – 19 April 2026).



Glass sports cup © Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service - Colchester Collection



Colchester Vase © Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service - Colchester Collection



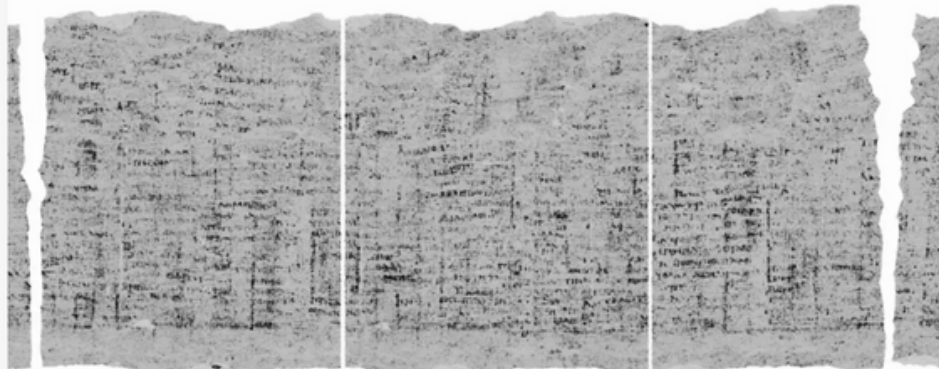
CLASSICS IN THE NEWS

First glimpse inside burnt scroll after 2,000 years

“A badly burnt scroll from the Roman town of Herculaneum has been digitally “unwrapped”, providing the first look inside for 2,000 years.”

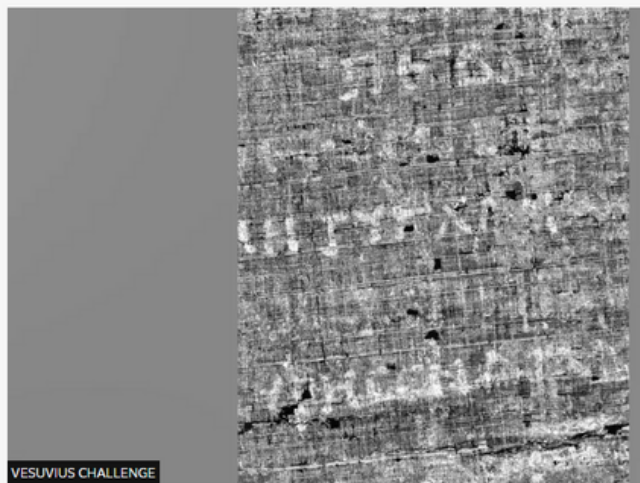
For the whole BBC article from 5th February 2025, please follow [this link](#).

This is incredibly exciting, and shows how modern, cutting-edge technology can be used to help us learn more about our past! Some of the images are included below. If your pupils learn Ancient Greek, they might even be able to recognise some letters in the bottom left image!



VESUVIUS CHALLENGE

| X-ray scans and AI have meant the inside of ancient scroll can be revealed



VESUVIUS CHALLENGE

| Some Greek letters can be seen on the papyrus scroll



BODLEIAN LIBRARY

| The ancient scroll was burnt to a crisp by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius

MUSEUM OF CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY, CAMBRIDGE

Hello from the Museum of Classical Archaeology, Cambridge! I'm Martha, the Education and Outreach Coordinator and it's my job to make sure your trip to the Museum is fun and inspiring – not just educational! Whether you're one of the local schools in Cambridge, travelling from further afield, or visiting us online, I'm here to help you plan your visit and make sure your experience goes smoothly.

School trips to the Museum of Classical Archaeology offer a unique glimpse into the ancient Greeks and Romans for those studying this topic as part of the Key Stage 2 History curriculum. We offer both a Greek session and a Roman session and each of these can be either in person at the museum or online.

These sessions are specially designed to build on classwork and help to bring the ancient world to life for your students. School trips to our museum are not only fun and educational, they're affordable too: our education service is entirely free of charge.

To make a booking, please use our [online booking request form](#).

Our Education and Outreach Coordinator will be in touch to answer any questions or discuss your options in advance of your visit. Please note: we ask that school trips are booked at least a week in advance of your visit.

Learning sessions led by our Education and Outreach Coordinator are available Tuesday-Thursday, 10am-5pm. Virtual sessions are available Tuesday-Thursday, 9-11am.

THE OLYMPUS CHALLENGE

Are you running an extra-curricular classics club? Would you like to recognise your students' achievements in classics?

The Olympus Challenge recognises the work of students studying Classics on an extra-curricular basis. To complete the challenge, students must choose three modules from a choice of five options. This flexibility enables groups to tailor the challenge according to their own interests.

All details, including how to sign up and submit your students' work can be found [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact us at cfaschoolsupport@classicsforall.org.uk.

FINALLY...

Don't forget, if you would like top-up training and any other support, please get in touch with your local Network Coordinator and us, via cfaschoolsupport@classicsforall.org.uk.

Thank you for all your enthusiastic work in bringing Classics to your schools!