

### SECONDARY SCHOOLS

**DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER** 

#### WELCOME TO THE FIRST CLASSICS FOR ALL SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER!

We will be sharing Classics for All News and Events with you, as well as showcasing a school each time. If any of the children in your school have any feedback about why they enjoy Classics, please share it with your local Coordinator or email us at <a href="mailto:grants@classicsforall.org.uk">grants@classicsforall.org.uk</a> with your quotes.



Artwork by their 'Illustrator in Residence', Ryan in Year 10

Learning about the Classics give us a new experience of the Ancient World and its fascinating perspectives!

Year 8 student, Holmfirth High School

### SECONDARY SCHOOL OF THE MONTH: HOLMFIRTH HIGH SCHOOL

Holmfirth High School, in West Yorkshire, are doing a wonderful job inspiring a love of classics in their pupils. They teach Homer's 'The Odyssey' to Year 7, 'Antigone' by Sophocles to Year 9, and added a Roman dimension with William Shakespeare's 'Julius Caesar' in Year 8. Year 7 students access the programme 'Vocabulous', where students are challenged by the gods and goddesses of Mount Olympus to learn root words – and actually enjoy it! They have a thriving Year 8 Greek Society with well over 50 members, and some fantastic Year 7 students preparing to compete in the Ovid For All Competition. Well done to Caroline and her team of brilliant teachers!



#### CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION WRITING COMPETITION - DEADLINE 1st DEC

The CA is launching a Creative Writing Competition. It is open to girls, young women and non-binary writers aged 19 and under, to whom the CA, in partnership with Bloomsbury Publishing, are offering the chance to become a published author. Entrants must simply submit a piece of creative writing of 1500 words or less, inspired by the classical world, by 1 December and their work could feature alongside writers like Madeline Miller and Jennifer Saint! There's more info <a href="here">here</a>, and a new podcast with Jenny Saint <a href="here">here</a>.



WWW.CLASSICSFORALL.ORG.UK



## TEACHERS DAY AT HARROW SCHOOL: GCSE and A Level Ancient History Tuesday 30th January 2024

Harrow School, in conjunction with The Classical Association and Classics For All, is hosting a FREE GCSE and A-Level Ancient History Teachers Day.

The day includes a variety of GCSE and A-Level topic seminars, general plenary lectures on the specification and Ancient History in schools and the opportunities to discuss exam technique, teaching methods and approaches to the course.

The Classical Association has funds to help state school teachers wishing to attend this event on a first come, first served basis. The CA will only be able to cover travel costs (not accommodation or other expenses). Please contact Gráinne for more information: education@classicalassociation.org

They are hopeful some elements of the course will be available online as well. All details about the day, including the sign-up form, can be found <u>here</u>.



#### WILD VISIONS, UNTAMED MYTH

#### Various Venues around the UK, January - March 2024

This new spoken word show will be touring to small theatres Jan-Mar 2024 and is highly recommended for teachers and students 14yrs+ with an interest in Greek mythology.

A double helping of ancient myth that sets the women firmly centre stage. Plunge into the wild world of the goddess Artemis where a moonlit path leads to transformation, and meet Kassandra, blessed with the power to see the future, cursed with never being believed. Created & performed by storytellers Katy Cawkwell and Lucy Lill. Sponsored by <u>Elanthy</u>.

"Dazzling!" "What a brilliant, feminist take on these old stories!"

Venues include: Dorset rural touring, Sheffield, Poole, Cambridge, Richmond (N. Yorks), Newcastle, Bath, Leicester, Liverpool, Leeds, Oxford, Havant. More details and ticket links: <a href="www.wildvisions.org">www.wildvisions.org</a> Katy and Lucy are also doing schools performances of Greek mythology (age-appropriate material Y3-

Y13 available) alongside the theatre tour: if you are interested in booking one, please contact

katycawkwell@gmail.com.



#### **EXPLORING HOMER'S ODYSSEY - FREE COURSE**

The Classical Studies team at the Open University is delighted to share with you the first in a new series of free online short courses in Classical Studies. 'Exploring Homer's Odyssey', written by Emma Bridges, is part of our HeadStart Classical Studies offering which is designed for anyone who is interested in finding out more about ancient Greece and Rome.

These courses (each comprising around six hours of guided self-study) draw on our team's research interests as well as on our expertise in high quality distance learning pedagogy. The topics also connect with elements of the UK school curriculum ('Exploring Homer's Odyssey' may be of particular interest to those teaching or studying 'The World of the Hero' for A Level Classical Civilisation, and may be useful for teachers looking to point their students towards works underpinned by academic scholarship. The course and further information can be found here.



## JACT LATIN SUMMER SCHOOL - FOR PUPILS AND TEACHERS Monday 22nd July - Saturday 3rd August 2024

The JACT Latin Summer School is available for pupils aged 15 - 18, plus there are classes for teachers too at various levels. All information can be found <u>here</u>, and information specifically for the teacher courses can be found <u>here</u>.

CONTACT US: If you want to access Classics for All's support to introduce or develop the teaching of classics in your school, please email grants@classicsforall.org.uk.



#### TWO SURVEYS - ONE FOR TEACHERS AND ONE FOR STUDENTS

#### FOR STUDENTS:

At the 2024 Classical Association conference, Danny Pucknell will be presenting a paper as part of a workshop on OCR A level Classics reform. He has created a survey that asks students for their views on possible optional modules beyond Greece and Rome. Share <u>this link</u> with your GCSE and A level pupils so their voices can be heard.

#### FOR TEACHERS:

Classics teacher, Athina Mitropoulos, would like to create a website for KS3/GCSE Classics. Before embarking on her website she needs to canvas opinions from teachers in a range of schools to determine whether it would be useful and beneficial. You can complete her survey <a href="here">here</a>.



A brilliant book collection by Holmfirth High School - bought with money they raised doing a sponsored walk!



### AND FINALLY... CLASSICS FOR ALL NEEDS YOUR HELP!



## Opens Noon on 28th November Closes Noon on 5th December

Has Classics For All helped your school? As part of the Big Give Campaign we would love for you to share your experience, just one or two sentences about how Classics For All has helped you and your students would help us in our campaign. Please email either your local network coordinator or <a href="mailto:grants@classicsforall.org.uk">grants@classicsforall.org.uk</a>.

<u>The Big Give</u> is the UK's biggest match-funded campaign, taking place from Tuesday 28 November to Tuesday 5 December. Last year Classics for All raised over £112,000!

This year's raised funds will help us to introduce and support classical subjects in primary or secondary schools in Midlands and North and pilot an innovative university access programme for pupils aged 14-18 from 10 state secondary schools in Liverpool, Lancashire and Manchester that will help overcome barriers to the study of classics at university.

We would love your support to help grow our network of schools by raising £50,000 from the public: every pound you donate will be matched by our generous individual pledgers and our Champion, The Reed Foundation. So mark your diaries and donate in the Big Give week for twice the impact!

You can read more about our campaign on the Big Give page here.