

January 2022 Newsletter

Happy New Year from the Bristol Classics Hub! We hope you enjoyed the break and managed to recharge your batteries for what promises to be a busy term ahead. Here's a roundup of what we've been up to and what's to come...

In this month's newsletter:

News from the Hub...

1. **Ovid competition winners**
2. **'How to Set Up a Classics Club'**
3. **Big textbook giveaway!**
4. **TeachMeet: Maximum Classics**

What's happening in our wider network...

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6. **CA Teaching Awards**
7. **Bristol CA lecture by Dr Shelley Hales**
8. **A Level Classics & Ancient History talks**
9. **Bristol CA Virtual Book Club**
10. **JACT Latin Camp 2022**

Key dates

1. Ovid competition winners

On Monday 29th November last year, we hosted a very special afternoon of prize-giving events at [The Roman Baths](#) in celebration of our fifth year running the Ovid in the West Country competition.

With 1000+ pupils participating from across 16 local schools, this was our biggest competition yet for which we had a record-breaking number of brilliant,

creative entries... making the competition judging process really tough!

We divided the schools into three separate categories and awarded a first prize for each. The overall winners were a Y7 student from Cardiff High School whose entry on the theme of global warming was inspired by the Daedalus and Icarus myth; a Y7 student from Chipping Campden School who produced a dramatic interpretation of the same story using a range of media; and a Y6 student from St Patrick's Catholic Primary School whose entry of a 3D model and poem was also inspired by Daedalus and Icarus.

Each of the prize-giving ceremonies involved an object handling session in which students were invited to examine replica Roman artefacts, as well as a brilliant dramatic retelling by [Daniel Morden](#) of the Phaethon story from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. The awards were made by Bob Lister, our guest of honour and creator of the [Classic Tales](#) resources.

Congratulations to all those who took part, and a special thank you to the teachers for your hard work and enthusiasm in supporting this competition!

That evening, we were also delighted to host a drinks reception for recent graduates from the PGCE Secondary English course at UWE Bristol who had successfully completed our [Classics in the Classroom](#) award scheme. Congratulations to them all, and many thanks to Joan Foley for her inspiring commitment to introducing Classics into the English classroom.

Thank you to The Roman Baths for generously hosting this afternoon and evening of special events!

2. 'How to Set Up a Classics Club'

Have you been thinking about starting an extracurricular Classics Club at your school, but don't know where *or how* to begin?

Join our FREE 1-hr online workshop 'How to Set Up a Classics Club'

on **Tuesday 8th February** (16:15-17:15) for all the advice and support you will need to get started.

Open to all KS3 teachers in state schools across the South West, this session will cover key considerations such as what is the purpose of your club and who are your target students, as well as providing an overview of the different materials and resources available.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to join two follow-up introductory CPD sessions on [Maximum Classics](#) (**8th March**) and [Amarantus](#) (**22nd March**), both of which will be geared specifically towards using these resources in an extracurricular context.

Please sign up [here](#) or email Lizzie at classics-hub@bristol.ac.uk for more information.

3. Big textbook giveaway!

Thanks to a hugely generous donation by King Edward's School in Bath back in November, we now have a great multitude of *Cambridge Latin Course* textbooks (Books I-V) to give away to any local schools who might need them.

We have also recently acquired a number of A Level Ancient History textbooks from Cotham School, including *Spartan Reflections* by Paul Cartledge and *An Introduction to Greek Art* by Susan Woodford.

Want to get your hands on some? Please get in touch with Lizzie at classics-hub@bristol.ac.uk to claim your box of books.

4. TeachMeet: Maximum Classics

Are you a primary school in the South West teaching Maximum Classics at KS2?

Whether you're an MC veteran or a new-starter, we're organising an online primary TeachMeet on **Thursday 3rd March** (16:00-17:00) for teachers to be able to meet and share their experiences of teaching the course, and make new connections.

Please do join us for this relaxed, informal – and hopefully very useful! – session. Virtual tea / coffee & biscuits will be provided.

5. Word Roots for KS2 & KS3

This week on **Thursday 27th January**, our colleagues over at [Classics for All North](#) will be running a FREE literacy CPD session via Zoom on 'Word Roots' for state school teachers at KS2 & KS3 (16:00-17:15). Details and sign-up are available [here](#).

Then, on **Thursday 24th February**, we are teaming up with our network for [London and the South East](#) to provide a similar online 'Word Roots' CPD event (15:30-17:00) aimed specifically at KS2 teachers. Please sign up [here](#) to register your interest.

As always, the aim of these introductory sessions is to explore key Latin and Greek root words that feature frequently in English, and discuss strategies and resources to support the teaching of literacy in schools.

No prior knowledge of Latin or Greek is required to attend! As highlighted in Alex Quigley's influential book 'Closing the Vocabulary Gap' (2018), building knowledge of etymology and morphology in the classroom can help pupils to develop greater 'word consciousness', which in turn enables them to better understand and use language.

6. CA Teaching Awards

Do you know an inspiring teacher whose efforts deserve special recognition? Well now's your chance because the Classical Association have announced the [CATB Teaching Awards for 2021-22](#) are open for nominations.

These annual awards are designed to recognise outstanding teaching and innovative pre-university education initiatives. Up to five prizes of £500 each will be awarded annually to individuals or projects which have a significant and positive impact on the teaching of Classics in the UK and winners will be announced at the [CA Conference in Swansea](#) in April.

Nominations are open until midnight on the **Friday 18th February** and can be made via this [online form](#) by anyone including students, colleagues, those who volunteer / support / engage with projects, parents / SLT, and the general public.

7. Bristol CA lecture by Dr Shelley Hales

The next lecture Bristol CA lecture will be run as a Zoom webinar on **Wednesday 2nd March** at 7pm, when Bristol's own [Dr Shelley Hales](#) will be talking about 'Recent Discoveries in Pompeii'.

After years of poor publicity and accusations of mismanagement and neglect aimed at the superintendency at Pompeii, the new excavations in the city have generated enormous public interest, positive headlines, and several internet memes! The combination of the excitement of discovery, the promise of new technologies to aid excavation and analysis and the novelty of finds fresh from the ground has proved enchanting to the point that this has been seen as Pompeii's 'Renaissance'. This talk is an opportunity to take a closer look at the buildings, objects, decoration, and human remains found in Regio V but also to ask whether these excavations are really so different from those of previous generations and what the longer-term consequences might be.

Please [register in advance](#) for this webinar, which promises to be both a timely and masterful lecture by an expert on the topic!

8. A Level Classics & Ancient History Talks

King's College London are offering a number of FREE online Classics and Ancient History talks for A Level students to get stuck into...

- On **Thursday 3rd March** (15:00-16:00) [Dr Emily Pillinger](#) will be giving a talk on 'The Great Gatsby and The Dinner of Trimalchio: Decadence in New York and Ancient Rome' in which she will demonstrate how one of the best-loved American novels of the twentieth century emerged from Fitzgerald's reading of a much less well-known ancient Roman novel by Petronius. There is no need for students to know anything of either work before the talk. Details and sign-up available [here](#).
 - Next, on **Wednesday 16th March** (15:00-16:00) [Dr James Corke-Webster](#) will be giving a talk on the Julio-Claudian period, addressing the Ancient History A level compulsory period study 'The Julio-Claudian Emperors, 31 BC–AD 68' with particular focus on the Res Gestae as a source for Augustus. Details and sign-up [online](#).
 - Finally, on **Wednesday 23rd March** (15:00-16:00) [Professor Dominic Rathbone](#) will be giving a second talk on the Julio-Claudian period for the same compulsory study – this time with particular focus on our sources on Nero's reign and the death of Agrippina. Sign up online [here](#).
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9. Bristol CA Virtual Book Club

The Bristol Classical Association have announced details of its sixth virtual book club meeting on **Tuesday 8th March** at 19:00 via Zoom.

For this meeting, they will be discussing Jennifer Saint's debut

novel *Ariadne* (2021) which one of the members of the book club has generously agreed to introduce.

If you would like to join, please let Dr Richard Cole know by email (richard.cole@bristol.ac.uk). All are welcome, especially students.

10. JACT Latin Camp

Last but not least, applications are now open for this year's JACT Latin Summer School (aka Latin Camp) which promises to be as much fun as always!

The two-week residential course is based at Harrogate Ladies' College in Yorkshire and will run from **Monday 18th** to **Saturday 30th July**. It includes intensive Latin language courses for all levels and ages, daily grammar clinics to consolidate learning, and a packed programme of evening talks and educational activities, including trips to Roman sites.

The course costs range from £200 to £870 depending on residency and duration, with some bursaries available for those in need.

Please see their [website](#) for more information or email Director David Stephenson (d.stephenson@warwickschool.org) if you have any specific questions.

Key dates

SPRING / SUMMER TERMS

- **Thursday 27th January:** Word Roots CPD for KS2 / KS3
- **Tuesday 8th February:** 'How to Set Up a Classics Club' workshop
- **Friday 18th February:** nominations close for CA Teaching Awards

- **Thursday 24th February:** Word Roots CPD for KS2
- **Wednesday 2nd March:** Bristol CA lecture by Dr Shelley Hales
- **Thursday 3rd March:** Maximum Classics TeachMeet
- **Thursday 3rd March:** KCL talk by Dr Emily Pillinger
- **Tuesday 8th March:** Bristol CA Virtual Book Club meeting
- **Wednesday 16th March:** KCL talk by Dr James Corke-Webster
- **Wednesday 23rd March:** KCL talk by Professor Dominic Rathbone
- **Monday 18th - Saturday 30th July:** JACT Latin Camp

*Thank you for supporting the Hub, and we hope to see you at one of our events
this year, whether in-person or online!*

The Bristol Classics Hub is funded by [Classics for All](#).

We are also very grateful for the continued support of our partners: the Bristol Classical Association, the [Classics and Ancient History Department](#) and the [Institute of Greece, Rome and the Classical Tradition](#) at the University of Bristol.