



October 2021 Newsletter

Welcome to the first e-newsletter of the new academic year from the Bristol Classics Hub! It's been a busy few weeks, and our calendar is filling up fast with events and activities for the year 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. **Wyedean Classics Club**
2. **Inclusive Classics at ARLT Summer School**
3. **Ancient Greek Philosophy workshops**
4. **Teaching videos on Hub website**

What's happening in our wider network...

5. **Devon and Cornwall Hub**

6. **CATB Greek and Latin CPD**
7. **Podcast recommendations**
8. **Ancient Rome Live**
9. **CA virtual book club meeting**
10. **Euroclassica exams**

Key dates



1. Wyedean Classics Club

While COVID-19 put a spanner in the works of many extracurricular activities in schools, some teachers in our network found creative ways to sustain their students' engagement with Classics.

In March 2021, Wyedean School in Chepstow launched a Classics Club open to all students from Year 7 to Year 13 to provide keen students with an opportunity to study the classical world.

“From the beginning, Club members needed to work independently since much of the time we were locked down,” teacher Lucy Roberts explains.

“Meetings were on Teams and we weren’t able to meet altogether in person due to bubbles.”

Students were given the task of designing their own research projects, allowing them freedom to investigate whichever aspect of the classical world interested them most.

“The beauty of project work is that students could work at their own pace and to their own challenge level,” Lucy continues. “The aim was to ignite interest and intellectual curiosity – not to dampen enthusiasm through unnecessarily high expectations.”

If you are interested in launching a Classics club at your school, we will be running an online workshop in partnership with the new Devon and Cornwall Hub in early January 2021, offering helpful advice to teachers on how to set one up. If you are interested in attending this event, please email classics-hub@bristol.ac.uk.



Ovid in the West Country is just one of many activities that can be run with students as part of an extracurricular classics club

2. Inclusive Classics at ARLT Summer School

What does the term 'inclusive classics' mean to you?

On Wednesday 28th July, Hub Manager Dr Hannah-Marie Chidwick visited the Association for Latin Teaching's Summer School at Blundell's School in Tiverton to run a workshop with Latin teachers and trainees on this topic she's especially passionate about.

The workshop covered how to adopt inclusive approaches to teaching ancient languages in the secondary classroom, such as creating inclusive learning spaces and finding a 'way in' to tricky subjects. There was plenty of participation from the teachers themselves as everyone shared their ideas.

Hannah-Marie will be running a similar workshop at the 'Visions of the Classics' event at Downside School in November.



The ARLT Summer School 2021 was held at Blundell's School in Tiverton

3. Ancient Greek Philosophy workshops

What was Ancient Greek Philosophy, and why should we care about it today?

Dr Benjamin Folit-Weinberg has developed a **FREE** interactive 40-60 minute workshop for KS2 & KS3 students which aims to demystify the grand and stodgy-sounding field of 'Ancient Greek Philosophy' and show how its major themes and questions continue to shape the way we think about the world.

No knowledge of ancient history is required or assumed. A healthy appreciation for the value of critical thinking and an interest in the notion of justice is appreciated.

If you are interested in hosting this workshop (to be held in-person) at your school, please email the Bristol Classics Hub (classics-hub@bristol.ac.uk) along with the workshop organiser, Dr Benjamin Folit-Weinberg, (b.folit-weinberg@bristol.ac.uk).



'The Death of Socrates' by Jacques-Louis David

4. Teaching videos on Hub website

As part of our continuing efforts to expand our online offering, we've added three new [teaching videos](#) to the Hub website to inform and / or complement your Classics teaching across different themes. Some are aimed at students and include in-class activities, while some offer guidance for your teaching planning and delivery.

Why do we study Classics?

Bristol Classics Hub partner, [Martina Delucchi](#), describes the many wonders and advantages of studying classical subjects. Perfect for students and teachers alike to introduce Classics, Classical Civilization and Ancient History.

Teaching Ancient Warfare

A video for teachers by [Dr Hannah-Marie Chidwick](#) about teaching war in the classroom. Hannah-Marie discusses some of the challenges we face teaching difficult subjects like war, and how to tackle them. This video was inspired by the teachers and researchers who attended a Hub TeachMeet held in March 2021, and a workshop in December 2019.

Performing Ancient Literature

A mini lecture by expert Latin teacher, George Sharpley, about the way literature was performed in the ancient world.

Keep an eye on our website for more teaching videos and resources, coming soon!



5. Devon and Cornwall Hub

We are delighted to announce a new South West Hub in Devon and Cornwall! The Hub was founded in January 2021 and is already working with over 100 teachers and 1000 pupils in the region.

The new Hub is run by Jasmine Elmer, a former Classics teacher with over 15 years of teaching experience. She is assisted by Dr Sharon Marshall, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Classics and Ancient History at the University of Exeter, who are partnering in our work at the University of Bristol. We look forward to working with Jasmine and Sharon in supporting schools in the wider South West region.

The Devon and Cornwall Hub are very keen to hear from local prospective schools, teachers and pupils. Please follow them on Twitter [@Devon Classics](#) for their latest news and updates, or email them at jasmine@classicsforall.org.uk for further information and to join their mailing list.

They look forward to supporting you in all your classical pursuits!

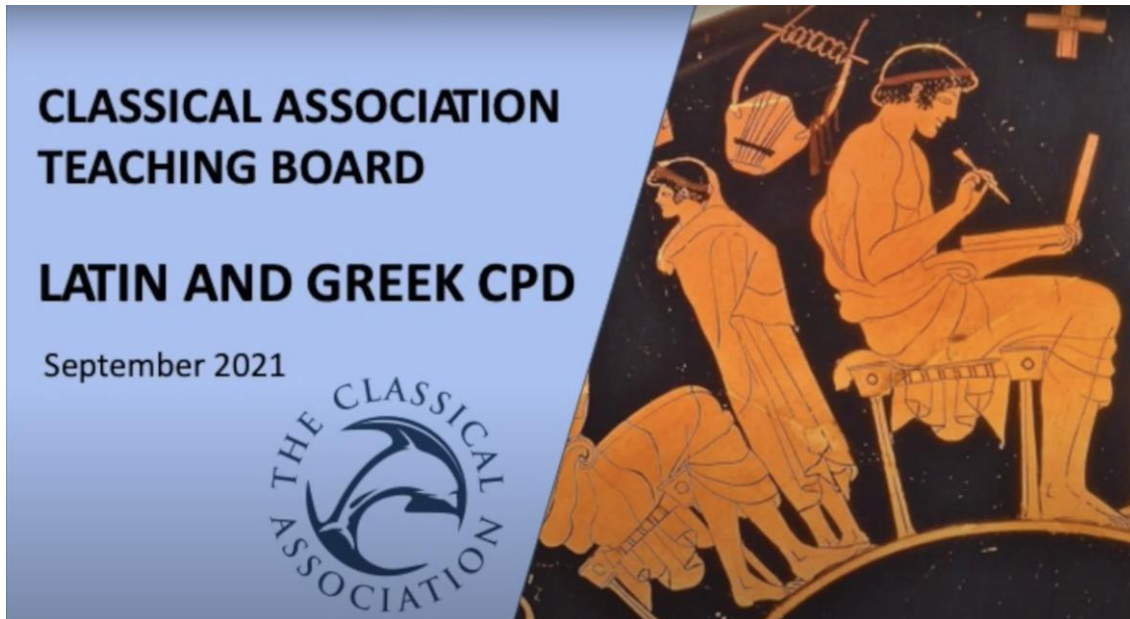


Jasmine Elmer and Dr Sharon Marshall head up the new Devon and Cornwall Hub!

6. CATB Greek and Latin CPD

The Classical Association Teaching Board (CATB) have created a series of videos for a **FREE** Latin and Greek online CPD day they organised in September this year. The day was led by practising teachers and academics and was relevant for both experienced secondary teachers and those new to teaching Classics.

All talks are available via [YouTube](#) and cover a range of topics, from teaching Plato's Symposium at A Level to Latin Unseens and Virgil's Aeneid at GCSE.



7. Podcast recommendations

Regional Classics is a new podcast series available via [Oxford Podcasts](#) and [Apple Podcasts](#) produced by the University of Oxford which features discussions with current students, staff and alumni from regions of the UK that have traditionally been underrepresented within the Faculty.

In the third episode of the podcast, Dr Rebecca Armstrong, alumna Molly Gibson-Mee and undergraduate Justin Vyvyan-Jones all discuss their experiences of growing up in the South West and how they became interested in Classics.

Meanwhile, the worlds of Ancient History, VR and video gaming collide in this recent episode of [History Hack](#), where Dr Richard Cole speaks about how cutting-edge technology is helping to recreate lost ancient worlds. The episode is for a general audience and is also available as a [YouTube](#) video.



8. Ancient Rome Live

On the subject of bringing ancient worlds to life, the [American Institute for Roman Culture](#) (AIRC) has produced a fantastic **FREE** educational resource called [Ancient Rome Live](#) which is designed to do just that.

Drawing on the extensive experience of the Institute in Rome, the resource has been created to provide unique access to the city, its empire and its legacy, with a library of almost 200 videos filmed on location plus podcasts and articles.



The Roman Forum is brought to life by Ancient Rome Live

9. CA virtual book club meeting

The Bristol Classical Association will be resuming meetings of its virtual book club via Zoom on Tuesday 23rd of November at 7pm.

For its fifth meeting, the book club will take a detour to the world of comic books and fantasy with Volume 9 of Neil Gaiman's graphic novel *The Sandman*, entitled *The Kindly Ones*. As per previous meetings, one of the members of club has generously agreed to introduce the book.

If you would like to join this upcoming meeting of the book club, please let Dr Richard Cole know by email (richard.cole@bristol.ac.uk). All welcome, especially students.



10. Euroclassica exams

Euroclassica, the Federation of European Classics Teachers' Associations, offers **FREE** entry level (Vestibulum) classical language tests: ELEX for Latin and EGEX for Classical Greek. These tests are taken all over Europe in many different countries every year, and successful candidates receive the same European certificate in gold, silver, or bronze as appropriate.

Following the success of their Vestibulum tests, Euroclassica are now also offering tests at intermediate level (Ianua) in Latin and Greek for pupils who have studied the languages for a longer time. Past test papers and further details are available on their [website](#).

Schools must notify Euroclassica if they would like to enter pupils for either Vestibulum or Ianua testing, and should email their test results to johnbulwer3@gmail.com once they have completed the process: no later than the end of January 2022. Certificates will be sent out to schools for teachers to award to their students.



Key dates

AUTUMN TERM

- **Wednesday 10th November:** final date for Ovid in the West Country 2021 entries to be submitted to classics-hub@bristol.ac.uk
- **Tuesday 23rd November:** next CA virtual book club meeting
- **Monday 29th November:** Ovid in the West Country 2021 prize-giving event at The Roman Baths, Bath
- **Monday 31st January:** deadline for Euroclassica test results email

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

CLASSICS FOR ALL

Championing Classics in Schools

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.

*If you have questions about the newsletter, please email classics-hub@bristol.ac.uk.
Similarly if you have Classics news that you would like to share, do get in touch as we'd love to feature updates in our newsletter or on our website.
Please pass this newsletter on to interested parties.*