

The Primary Latin Project team

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UK

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General information	
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Creators

The Primary Latin Project team

The Primary Latin Project is a charity which promotes the teaching and learning of ancient languages in primary schools. The team provides training for teachers and helps with resources to run the *Minimus* Programme in schools and provides support for teaching both Greek and Latin.

Lindsey Davis (born 1949) is an English historical novelist, degree in English literature at Oxford University. She is best known as the author of the Falco series of historical crime stories – novels featuring the Roman "detective" Marcus Didius Falco – set in ancient Rome and its empire. She has won many literary awards, including in 2011 the Cartier Diamond Dagger of the Crime Writers' Association given to authors who have made an outstanding lifetime's contribution to the genre. She was honorary president of the Classical Association from 1997 to 1998.

Stephen Harrison (born 1960) is a British classicist and Professor of Latin Literature at Corpus Christi College in Oxford. He specialises in the poetry of Virgil and Horace, the Roman novel and the reception of classical literature. He is also interested in how Classics is taught and researched elsewhere in the world.

Tom Stoppard (born 1937 as Tomáš Strausler) is a Czech-born British playwright and screenwriter. He worked for TV, radio, film and stage. He has received an Academy Award and four Tony Awards. He has been a key playwright of the National Theatre and is one of the most internationally performed dramatists of his generation.

Elena Theodorakopoulos is a senior lecturer in Classics, head of the Department of Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology at the University of Birmingham. Her research interests are two main areas: Roman poetry of the Republic and Principate, and the reception of classical culture and literature in contemporary film and literature.

Catharine Edwards (born 1963) is a British ancient historian and academic. She studied at the University of Cambridge, currently she is Professor of Classics and Ancient History at Birkbeck College at University of London. She is a specialist in Roman cultural history and Latin prose, particularly Seneca the Younger.

Peter Jones (born 1942) is a classicist, writer, journalist and broadcaster, Cambridge graduate with a doctorate thesis on Homer. He was senior lecturer in Classics at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, and co-founded the *Friends of Classics* charity. He is also a spokesman for the national Co-ordinating Committee for Classics. He has written widely on Homer and has published a book *Vote For Caesar* about how ancient civilisations have solved the problems of today. Awarded the Order of the British Empire in 1983.

Bettany Hughes (born 1967) is an English historian, author and broadcaster, specialising in classical history. She is currently a visiting research fellow at King's College London, a tutor for Cambridge University's Institute of Continuing Education. She is an author of books on Ancient Greek subjects and documentary films and series for National Geographic, BBC, Discovery Channel, PBS, The History Channel etc. She is a patron and supporter of educational and campaigning charity the Iris Project, which has been promoting and teaching Latin and Greek in state schools, an honorary patron of Classics For All, a national campaign to get classical languages and the study of ancient civilisations back into state schools.

Jayne Treasure is the deputy director of the Primary Latin Project. She is a Latin teacher, she has been teaching Classics for over thirty years and is now running the Latin classes and clubs for Crickhowell High School, Crickhowell Primary School and Llangattock Primary School as well and providing training on behalf of the Primary Latin Project and Classics for All for non-specialist Classics teachers who wish to introduce the subject in their schools.

Barbara Bell is the head of classics at Clifton High, a girls' independent school in Bristol and teaches at Haberdashers' Girls School in Monmouth. She was the secretary for the Joint Association for Classical Teachers.

Helen Forte is the illustrator of *Minimus* and *Minimus Secundus* and creator of the website. She teaches Latin, Art and ICT at Moreton Hall Prep School in rural Suffolk. Her pupils have been using *Minimus* since she was trying it out for the first time, and they are her guinea pigs for new ideas. She has used puppets, animation, video and interactive exercises, as well as creative writing and experimental archaeology. She also illustrated *The Roman Mystery Scrolls*, a new series by author Caroline Lawrence.

Additional information

Contents & Purpose

The Primary Latin Project is a website aimed at the teachers, it promotes the teaching of ancient languages in primary schools. The website provides training for teachers and helps with resources to run the programme based on the *Minimus* textbook in primary school. *Minimus* is a unique Latin course for younger children based on a real family who lived in Britain at Vindolanda in 100 AD: Flavius, the fort commander, his wife Lepidina, their three children, assorted household slaves, their cat Vibrissa and *Minimus* the mouse. It is designed to be taught by non-specialists.

The website provides support for teaching both Greek and Latin in an engaging way. The audio stories of 24 ancient Greek myths told by professional storytellers are available online. Also, schemes of work for the *Minimus* course are downloadable. One can find also useful links and resources. The Project organizes an annual Mythology Competition for pupils and offers grants to state schools.
