

SATIPS

Support and training in Prep, Primary and Senior Schools

Classics

A message from the editor

A brief note only from me to wish all readers of this journal the very best for the summer term and the well-deserved holidays beyond. I hope that the Easter break has also proven a welcome respite.

This edition includes information on the upcoming IAPS conference in May, the latest set of Latin resources to be released by Bob Bass and the fine work of the Hellenic Book Service. I am also delighted to share an article by Fred Pragnell on the various graffiti at Pompeii – it makes for most entertaining reading.

My thanks to Bob, Fred and Monica Williams for their contributions – once again I should like to take the opportunity to encourage others readers to send in any pieces they wish to see published.

IAPS Classics Conference 2018 – London, Wednesday 9th May

“Future Perfect – The Outlook For Classics”. Meet up with fellow prep school Classics teachers and have your say about the future of Latin and Greek. Speakers include:

Janet Taylor, Head of Classics at King’s School, Canterbury: Recent changes in GCSE Latin

Bob Bass, Head of Classics, Orwell Park School: The Sounds of Latin

Ed Clarke, Head of Classics, Highfield School: The Prep Teacher’s Lot

Address: Broadway House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NQ.
Cost online: £199.
Bookings via iaps.uk, tel. (01926) 887 833. If you wish to give a short presentation during the day please email the Course Director, Fred Pragnell via efprag@aol.com.

Prep School Latin: A Handbook for Students and Teachers

Prep School Latin is a substantial, one-stop resource suitable for prep school pupils working at any of the four levels of the ISEB prescription, and caters also for the more advanced 13+ scholarship demands of some public schools. As such it can be used at secondary level as a Year 9 consolidation course or as a pre-GCSE refresher.

The explanations and lay-out are unsophisticated but clear, and there are plentiful exercises affording practice in exactly the sort of questions pupils will face at Common Entrance and Public School Scholarship levels. Teachers will find the vocabulary checklists invaluable for reference and the setting of learning work.

The book combines the best features, and omits the less successful ones, of my *Ab Initio*, *Latin Practice Exercises* and *Latin as an Honour* series, based on my own experience and the feedback received from colleagues. As such it can be used as a traditional coursebook for pupils of all abilities whilst still catering for the needs of those who favour the heavily English-into-Latin bias of *Latin as an Honour*.

It is also intended to be user-friendly; hence the grammatical tables, syntax summary and two-way vocabulary at the end. The numbered vocabulary listings, arranged by word type within each level, may be found useful for the setting of learning work. My own practice is to operate a ‘five-a-day’ learning policy, but that’s another story...

Prep School Latin runs to more than 500 pages and is compact (7 x 10 ins, 17.78 x 25.4 cms) in format. It could form the core of a prep school course or simply stand alone as the single course book to serve pupils throughout their prep school career. It will be available shortly on Amazon at £14.99.

Bob Bass, Head of Classics, Orwell Park School.

The Hellenic Bookservice (since 1966)

te, magister optime, hanc bibliothecam uberrimam, visere oportet.

Up the road from Kentish Town station can be found the world’s largest collection of Latin, Classical and Modern Greek books. In addition to the extensive range of books on Ancient History and Classical Civilisation, Monica has a wonderful array of DVDs, realia, games and trinkets for the classroom. The basement holds a huge stock of second-hand books, where you may possibly find your old school Latin or Greek textbook, or indeed teacher, lurking in the aisles. Proprietor: Monica Williams.
Address: 89 Fortess Road, London NW5 1AG.
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The Graffiti of Pompeii (a few examples from *Oh Happy Place* by Vincent Hunink, Apeiron 2014)

In 79 AD a volcanic eruption broke in on the Campanian city of Pompeii, near Naples. The city, buried by vast amounts of ashes and pumice, perished along with its inhabitants. Systematic excavations began only in the 18th century.

Pompeii was a treasure house both for painted-on notifications (*dipinti*) and graffiti in the stricter sense (the singular graffiti being ‘an inscription scratched into a wall’). So far almost 10,000 Pompeian graffiti of both types have been recorded.

It is fair to say that many Classical scholars have had difficulty reconciling the received view of high-minded Romans speaking a polished and grammatically correct Latin with these graffiti which reveal the baser concerns of everyday life. The entire material is available through the *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum* (CIL). Of the 10,000 inscriptions, many are election slogans, business letters, price lists of goods, or entrance prices for public games.

While Pompeian graffiti are characterised by a strong need for communication, often using literary quotations, there is little blasphemy or discriminating remarks against minorities. The purpose of the graffiti with their vitality and authenticity was simply to communicate mundane and temporary concerns, and not intended to speak to future generations. The non-standard spellings and accidents do provide tantalising clues of the state and direction of the *sermo vulgaris*.

AV PULA

Hello, girl!

CAVE VSORIBVS

Beware of wives!

PLUI

It’s raining

NON ECO

Not I

MVLIREBU

For the women

PARIS HIC FVIT

Paris was here.

OC CELER FECITE

Celer has made this.

CRESCES HAVE ANIMA DVLCIS ET SVAVIS

Greetings, Crescens, and gentle soul!

SI QVISQVIS BIBIT CETERA TVRBA EST

If one is drinking, he doesn’t care about all the rest.

AMO TE FACILIS FAC MI COPIA

I love you, Facilis. Give me a chance!

OMNES HIC HABITAN

All live here.

BONVS DEVS HIC ABITAT IN DOMO ACTI

A good god lives here in the house of Actius. 🍷

M ATILLIUS HIC STATIONEM FECIT	Marcus Atillius has been on guard here.
FVRES FARAS FRVGI INTRO	Thieves out, decent people in!
OCCASIONEM NACTVS NON PRETERMISI	Having obtained the opportunity... I have not let it go by
DISCITE DVM VIVO MORS INIMICA VENIS	Learn: As long as I live, you will come, death, as an enemy.
TALIA TE FALLANT VTINAM MEDACIA COPO TV VEDES ACVUAM ET BIBES IPSE MERUM	May such lies cost you dearly, innkeeper! You sell water and drink pure wine yourself.
ABOMINO PAVPERO QVISQVI QVID GRATIS ROGAT FATVS EST AES DET ET ACCIPIAT REM	I hate the poor! Whoever asks something free of charge is a fool. Let him pay first and then receive the goods.
ADMIROR TE PARIES NON CECIDISSE QVI TOT SCRIPTORVM TAEDIA SVSTINEAS	I am amazed, wall. That you have not yet collapsed, as you bear the nagging of so many writers.
VENIMUS HOC CVPIDI MVLTO MAGIS	We came here desiring, much more ...
HOSPITIVM HIC LOCATVR TRICLINIVM CVM TRIBUS LECTIS	Accommodation for rent: room with three beds
MIXIMVS IN LECTO FATEOR PECCAVIMVS HOSPES SI DICIS QVARE NULLA MATELLA FVIT	We have wet the bed. I confess: we have done wrong, host! If you ask why; there wasn't a chamber pot!
NVNC EST IRA RECENS NVNC EST DISCEDERE TEMPVS	Now the anger is still fresh, now is the time to leave.
SI DOLOR AFVERIT CREDE REDIBIT AMOR	When the grief has departed, believe me, love will return.
CHIE OPTO TIBI REFRICENT SE FICUS TVAE VT PEIUS VSTULENTVR QVAM VSTVLATAE SVNT	Chius, I hope your haemorrhoids open up again, so that they burn worse than they have burned already.
SVSPIRIUM PVELLARUM TRAX CELADVS OCATAVIVS III III	Heart throb of the girls / the Thracian Celadus from Octavius' school, 3 (fights, 3 (victories)
CVMIS GLADIATORVM PARIA XX SVPPOSITICII PUGNABVNT K OCT III PR N CRUCIARII VENATIO ET VELA ERVNT	At Cumae, 20 pairs of gladiators / (and their) substitutes will fight on October 1st, 5th, 6th and 7th. There will be people crucified, beast fights and awnings
QVISQVIS AMAT VALEAT PEREAT QVI nescit amare bis tanto pereat QVISQVIS AMARE VETAT	live whoever loves! Away with him who does not know love! And twice away with whoever forbids love!

VIBIVS RESTITUTVS HIC SOLVS DORMIVIT ET VRBANAM SVAM DESIDERABAT VELLEM ESSEM GEMMA HORA NON AMPLIVS VNA VT TIVI SIGNANTI OSCVLA PRESSA DARE	Vibius Restitutus slept here all alone and really missed his Urbana If only I could be a gem, for as much as one hour! Then when you were sealing I could give you the kisses I pressed on it.
MEA VITA MEAE DELICIAE LVDAMVS PARVMPER HVNC LECTVM CAMPVM ME TIBEI EQVOM PVTAMUS	My darling, my sweet, let us play for a while and let us consider this bed to be a field and myself to be a horse at your disposal.
EVPLIA HIC CVM HOMINIBUS BELLIS MM	Euplia ... here with two thousand beautiful men
LASCIVOS VOLTVS ET BLANDOS AVFER OCELLOS CONIUGE AB ALTERIVS SIT TIBI IN ORE PVDOR	Turn away your lascivious regards and alluring little eyes from another man's wife. Let there be a sense of shame in your face.
HIC EGO CVM VENI FUTVI DEINDE REDEI DOMI	When I came here I f***ed; then I went back home.

Fred Pragnell, Head of Classics, St. Anthony's School, Hampstead.