CLASSICS FOR ALL Championing Classics in Schools

Classics for All Newsletter – September 2016 www.classicsforall.org.uk

Letter from Chairman

I am very excited indeed to become Chairman of Classics for All and steward it through its next phase of growth.

As someone with a business background, I relish the challenge of a well-run organisation that is also stretched to meet demand.

As a philanthropist I appreciate that people who wish to give to a charity need to feel assured that their gift will bring positive results.

I am determined to make a positive impact on both counts.

The thing that excites me about Classics for All is how much it has achieved for so little monetary input, and what potential it has as a young and flexible organisation to reach many more beneficiaries and make an enormous impact.

I joined the Board of Trustees in June 2015 and took the opportunity to hear directly from scores of teachers about the difference a Classics for All grant has made to them and their pupils. The consistent message that frontline teachers convey is about increased aspirations - pupils who would never have considered advancing into higher education now have the self-confidence to pursue this as a direct result of the horizons opening to them from learning about Classics.

This often comes as a result of improved language skills, primarily in English. But it has an impact across the curriculum including maths and the sciences, remarkably.

The teachers themselves are hugely enthused and have made the point time and time again how their own

horizons and aspirations are lifted by adding new subjects such as Latin, Ancient History or Classical Civilisation to their professional portfolio and repertoire.

Now is an outstanding opportunity for anyone who wishes to support the improvement of educational opportunities to get on board as a Classics for All donor.

We would like you to consider a donation today. But we are much more concerned to have you as a supporter for the long term.

Introducing and embedding Classics into a school requires planning and time to roll out. Equally our charity requires a steady pace of growth. We can't grow like Topsy and will struggle to meet our goals if we do. We want to increase our grants to schools to meet demand, and the best way to ensure this is to know we have a substantial number of donation pledges for this year, next year, and the three years following.

This kind of investment in our organisation by donors will ensure that more schools can apply to Classics for All next year and for years to come.

I hope you will make a commitment to Classics for All. We have donor categories from £100 pa to £100k pa. Building on what we already have in place, in the coming year we are looking for 1,000 donors to give £100 each year, 100 donors to give £1,000 per year, and a few to give even more substantial commitments. I'd like to get to the point where the first £200k that we give in grants has come from your pledges and direct debits since I became Chairman. Rest assured that I will be committing very substantial sums from my own and my family's resources but I would like to think we can match that commitment from new supporters or existing friends who are seeing the impact CfA is having.

I look forward to reporting progress on this in future issues. Most of all, I hope you will not hesitate to contact me directly to get to know more about this amazing, hardworking and socially relevant organisation.

Don't forget...if you see or hear of a need for Classics in your local school, then you can be the ambassador and enabler to change lives on your own doorstep!

Do get in touch.



Geoffrey de Jager

Case Study Guide to setting up classics

Most of the schools that apply for Classics for All funding are new to classics, so in 2015 we commissioned Steve Hunt, a university lecturer in Classics Education at Cambridge and classics teacher, to write a guide on how to get started.

We know that teachers need advice on courses, resources and training as well as tips on how to make the argument for classics in the face of competition from other subjects in a crowded curriculum. Our <u>Guide to setting up classics</u> provides useful material to answer these questions:

Why is classics relevant for primary school pupils?

- · Is it accessible for all pupils?
- I don't know where to start. What classics resources or course materials are available?
- The primary school curriculum is very crowded. How would I fit classics in?
- I have no qualifications in classics. What training is available and how much does it cost?

How can I make a case for classics in state secondary schools?

- How do I get courses up and running if there is no-one qualified to teach classics? Is there training and post-training support or mentoring available?
- We have limited budgets for training and continuing professional development (CPD); is there any free support out there?
- Can you refer me to other teachers who have got things up and running in my area?

The guide also includes a section on the importance of classics in education and some statistics on classical subjects in schools and universities. It is available as a downloadable PDF on our website, with separate sections for primary and secondary schools. Funding for this <u>Guide</u> <u>to setting up classics</u> was provided by the London Schools Excellence Fund through our Capital Classics London-wide school project.



Steve Hunt, University Lecturer in Classics Education at Cambridge

Grant Programme Update

Classics for All has recently started to accept applications throughout the year and there is no sign that interest in the fund is abating. Since our announcement of the last round of 19 grants in June, we have awarded an additional £62k to 24 projects to support Classics development, bringing the total awarded this year so far to around £137k. This means that we are now supporting work in close to 500 schools across the UK.

We continue to work hard on developing Classics networks in areas where CFA has limited presence and are delighted to be working in partnership with Birmingham and Bristol universities to set up new hubs to foster regional enthusiasm for Classics. A grant awarded for research into the state of Classics in Bristol schools has resulted in a comprehensive report on current Classics activity in the region. Bristol University will use this act as a springboard for stimulating and developing future provision and the report has already aroused considerable interest from primary and secondary schools keen to give Classics a go. In light of the value of this exercise, we have funded a similar report in Birmingham and are keen to consider similar grants in other areas where research may help to launch Classics.

Our programme Capital Classics, funded generously by the London Schools Excellence (and Legacy) Fund, supports the development of Classics in the capital. Now in its third year, the initiative benefits over 70 schools in London. This summer we have run



an intensive Latin course for 25 teachers from 12 primary and secondary schools across the capital to improve their subject knowledge. We are also collaborating with the Harris Academy to train Classics teachers from scratch to meet growing demand from schools in the capital.

Demand for Continuing Professional Development in Latin in primary schools is growing as schools begin to recognise the benefits of teaching Latin to support literacy at Key Stage 2 as part of the Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum. There are a number of attractive Latin courses accessible to younger pupils including the Primary Latin Project's Minimus, which offers a cartoon-based approach to language learning popular with pupils and teachers. We have recently started to work in partnership with PLP establishing a group of trainers across England and Wales to meet regional need and receive regular requests to support the introduction of Latin, some of which are featured in the grants list below. We have also supported the development of a new primary course which blends the learning of Latin with study of the Ancient World to be piloted in three north London schools.

As usual we have launched our annual grants round in September 2016 with a deadline for submission in mid-January 2017. Anyone interested in a grant is invited to submit a preliminary email to Classics for All (grants@ classicsforall.org.uk) outlining their interest, which will be followed by a brief conversation with an adviser. If you are invited to submit a full application, you will find the application form on our website at classicsforall.org.uk.



Hilary Hodgson, Grants Adviser grants@classicsforall.org.uk

List of the second tranche of Classics for All grants 2016

- Birmingham University (Birmingham)
 A single grant of £2,000 to support the development of a Classics hub in Birmingham that will increase the number of schools in the city teaching classics.
- Bishop Thomas Grant School (Streatham, London SW16) A single grant of £1,445 over one year to support the introduction of a GCSE Greek club for 20 pupils in years 7-9. There are plans to embed Greek in the school curriculum.
- 3. Bristol University Research (Bristol and Bath) A single grant of £2,000 to support research into classics provision and development needs in Bristol and Bath to inform the development of a regional Classics network.

Bristol University PCCE (Bristol) A single grant of £450 to train 8 postgraduate teachers in English and Modern Foreign Languages to teach Latin.

 Congleton Primary School (Derbyshire)
 A single grant of £250 to support training for teachers to deliver Latin to 120 pupils at Key Stage 2.

- 6. Dorothy Stringer School (Brighton) A single grant of £500 to visit to King's College London and the British Museum to support the development of teachers' subject knowledge and to build university links.
- Greenshaw School (Sutton, Surrey) Two grants of £1,650 (total £3,300) to support the teaching of Latin in Year 9 with 30 pupils over two years with a view to increasing take-up of the subject at GCSE.
- 8. Greig City Academy (London N8)

Greig Academy in North London has recently added GCSE Latin to its curriculum, following the introduction of a Latin Club in 2014. The single grant of £4,000 will support a new primary Classics course, blending language, history and cultural study to be piloted in 3 primary schools in North London with 150 pupils.

9. Hamstead Hall School (Birmingham)

At Hamstead Hall School 45% of students are entitled to Pupil Premium funding and 55% do not have English as their first language. The school started an after school Latin class in September 2014 attracting 15 pupils from year 8. Three annual grants of £3, 351 (total £10,055) will support the introduction of GCSE Latin and a new Key Stage 3 group. The longer term aim is to establish Latin GCSE as part of the school curriculum reaching around 60 pupils per year. In Years 2 and 3 the school plans to introduce Latin to Grestone Academy, a primary school in the Hamstead Hall Academy Trust, offering Latin to a further 60 plus pupils.

10. Hills College (Cambridge)

A single grant of £2,044 to support a Greek class for 15 pupils in years 12 and 13.

11. Liverpool College

A single grant of £15,000 to set up a Classics network in Liverpool. This will increase the number of primary schools and secondary school teaching Latin, Greek and Classics and Ancient History in Liverpool from 2 to 52. It will also make Ancient Greek available to 30 pupils across Liverpool with support from the University. This project will offer 6 new teacher training places for Ancient History and Classics teachers, train 10 teachers from feeder primary schools to teach Latin reaching 300 pupils and train 50 teachers from other primary schools across the city to teach Latin, reaching a further 1500 pupils.

12. Manchester University

A single grant of £545 to: support the introduction of Latin at Medlock, Cavendish, and West Didsbury primary schools; offer taster sessions in Latin for 150 pupils at Lymm High School and to introduce GCSE Latin for 8 pupils at Key Stage 3; and offer taster sessions for 200 pupils at New Mills School, Derbyshire and three others (Buxton Community School, St Thomas More Catholic School (Buxton) and Glossopdale Community College with a view to recruiting pupils to learn Latin from September 2016.

- 13. Minimus (Primary Latin Project) A single grant of £750 to support the updating of the Minimus database of schools.
- 14. Our Lady of Pity School (Birkenhead) A single grant of £350 to train 3 Learning Support Assistants and 2 teachers to deliver Minimus, the primary Latin course with 60 year 2 pupils in this Birkenhead primary school.
- 15. Queensmead School (Ruislip, Middlesex) A single grant of £1,400 to strengthen the teaching of Classical Civilisation at A level with 20 students and to introduce an after school club for 20 students at GCSE to stimulate more take-up of Classics at Key Stage 5.
- 16. Ricard's Lodge School (Merton SW19) Ricards Lodge High School is a 11-16 comprehensive school for girls in Wimbledon and a co-educational sixth form. 33.9% of pupils are eligible for free school meals and over 40% students do not have English as their first language. A single grant of £1,950 will support the introduction of a Latin club for 30 pupils in years 7-9 with the ultimate goal of introducing Latin on a permanent basis. Teaching and training to be led by a Cambridge classicist and one of our newly recruited trainers.
- 17. Sidney Stringer Secondary School (Coventry) Sidney Stringer is a three form entry academy in Coventry with high levels of pupils eligible for free school meals. With support from CfA it has already introduced Latin GCSE and A level and Greek GCSE. Support of £2,400 over one year will fund a trainer to mentor teachers in the first teaching year of Latin with 8 students.
- 18. St Saviours School (London)

A Church of England school with 400 pupils on roll, 17% of whom are eligible for pupil premium, around the national average. A single grant of £200 will support a Greek day which will benefit 30 pupils at Key Stage 2.

19. St Thomas More School (Sutton, Surrey)

A single grant of £1,445.65 to support the introduction of a Greek GCSE for 15 pupils at Key Stage 3 and 4 which will be made part of the curriculum at the end of the grant.

20. Stambridge School (Essex)

A single grant of £250 to train 6 teachers and Teaching Assistants to introduce Latin to 60 pupils at Key Stage 2.

21. Stretham School (Cambridgeshire)

A single grant of £350 to run two training sessions for 15 teachers to a local cluster of 4 primary schools and 2 secondary schools cluster to teach Latin. Training could reach over 150 pupils at Key Stage 2 and 60 pupils at Key Stage 3.

22. Varndean School (Sussex)

A single grant of £825 to support training to enhance the subject knowledge of teachers running a newly introduced GCSE Latin course for 20 plus students.

23. Westbourne Primary School (Sutton, Surrey) A single grant of £170.90 to train 2 teachers to teach Latin. Work will result in the teaching of Latin to 30 pupils at Key Stage 2.

24. **William Alvely School (Sleaford, LincoInshire)** A single grant of £600 to support the introduction of Classical Civilisation and an after school Latin club with 360 pupils in a two form entry primary school.

Events Friends of Classics Memorial Lecture

On Thursday 10 November Dr Peter Jones will give the first of what will be an annual Friends of Classics Memorial Lecture. His talk, 'From angina to rheumatism: Ancient medical terminology and practice', will explore the language and practice of



ancient medicine, with many eye-opening and sometimes eye-watering examples. The lectures put on by Friends of Classics were classed as seminars rather than monologues. The atmosphere was relaxed, and interruptions, objections and questions were welcome throughout, indeed encouraged. Bonus points were added for stumping the speaker. The Memorial Lectures will carry on in this spirit.

The venue is Francis Holland School Regent's Park, Ivor Place, London NW1 6XR. The talk will begin at 6.30pm, followed by a wine and canapé reception. Tickets are £16 and may be purchased online through our website, or by cheque (please post with covering note to Classics for All, 51 Achilles Road, London NW6 1DZ). As with all of our events, additional donations or event sponsorship offers are welcome. Contact <u>events@classicsforall.org</u>.uk or ring 07809 256839 with any queries.

Announcements Launch of CFA's online journal Ad familiares



Editor James Morwood (Wadham College, Oxford) writes:

On September the 30th we are launching an online journal which will publish articles of current classical interest. We are following in the footsteps of the Friends of Classics, now absorbed into Classics for All, who, under the brilliant editorship of Peter Jones, produced 50 editions of their journal *Ad familiares*, the title under which Cicero's letters to his friends are assembled.

While keeping the name, our journal will be somewhat different. Rather than producing two editions each year, we shall publish one article a month. Opening the batting will be Laurel Fulkerson on Ovid, a chapter from Paul Chrystal's new book, *In Bed with the Ancient Greeks* (we are at present agonizing over how many of his illustrations we dare include!), and Stephen Anderson on W.H.D. Rouse, the celebrated exponent of the 'direct method' of Latin teaching, i.e. with all the lessons conducted completely in Latin.

Below we include, as a kind of trailer, a jolly piece about Homeric epithets by Alistair Elliot, the poet and verse translator who lives in Newcastle. Among his other publications, he wrote a famous translation of Medea for Diana Rigg.

THE HOMER FESTIVAL

They were hurrying to the Odeon, but they stopped at the wine-place for a cup on the way. The place was crowded with men who couldn't bear the recitations, but they found a table.



'We'll be late,' remarked Orthomousos.

'Those hymns they have to perform are such a bore. Inauthentic too.' Chorocles didn't particularly care if they missed the whole thing.

'Look, I've had an idea,' he added. 'Let's make it more interesting by counting the clichés and padding. It could be a good game.'

'How do we do that? It doesn't sound good at all to me.'

On the table was a piece of papyrus with a picture of today's fish. Chorocles turned it over, pushed it to the edge of the table and broke it in half. He pulled out his new stylus, a piece of bamboo with ink inside. You had to remember to block the writing end after use and carry it the right way up, but he was very pleased with it. 'We each choose the epithets that annoy us most and write them down. When the reciter comes to one of ours we score a point. The first to collect all his six wins the game.'

Orthomousos thought this rather satirical and antipoetic for his taste, but at least this game would ensure that they attended the festival, which he'd been looking forward to. 'So, which words do you disapprove of, Chorocles?'

'Most of all, the adjective single-hoofed and I don't like white-armed much either.'

'Will you allow me good at battle-cry – as it's a phrase?'

'Of course, and I'll have that stupid shepherd of the people. But let's say words like golden and black aren't permissible – they are harmless descriptions. And I don't think I'll tell you my other words. Then it will be a real competition.'

'And what do we do if we hear all our words?'

'You stand up and shout Homeric Bingo.'

They wrote down some words, paid for their wine, and went on to the Odeon feeling rather refreshed.

The Ad Familiares online journal will be accessible from 30 September through the Reading Room on <u>www.</u> <u>classicsforall.org.uk</u>. It will be available to Classics for All supporters who donate £100 or more per annum; a registration code will be provided before 1 October for access to the online articles.

RSS Feed for www.classicsforall.org.uk

For those who use RSS feeds, these have now been enabled on our website. You may click on the icon in the top right corner of our site to access RSS feeds for Grants, Case Studies and Book Reviews.



Donor recognition errata

The following names were erroneously omitted from the previous issue listing names within donor categories:

Centurions: The Hardingham Trust **Praetorians:** Henry King, Matthew Lindsey-Clarke

Letter from Director

It is important to all of us at Classics for All to inform you about where your money is going.

We have dedicated a good portion of this newsletter to describe the grants awarded by Classics for All in the second tranche for 2016. These 24 grants tell the story about what schools need to get Latin and other classical subjects going in their schools – it may be £180 for a specific teacher training day, or £15,000 over several years to establish a regional classics network reaching dozens of schools and thousands of pupils. Each of the grants is monitored by our grants team, Hilary and James. All of the schools join a growing list mapped out on our website's Grants Directory. With each year's cohort of grantees we can identify classics 'hot-spots' and use it to develop our schools outreach. Our case study in this issue, Guide to setting up classics, features the type of practical support we provide to schools in addition to the grants.

Your gifts make all of this possible. As Geoffrey has outlined in the Chairman's letter, Classics for All seeks to build a foundation of regular donors to ensure we can continue to sustain our grant programme as it grows each year. In addition to our appeal for pledges and direct debit donations, we have also joined forces with Remember a Charity (rememberacharity.org. uk) to promote legacy



giving. This consortium works with member charities and partners in the legal sector, government and private sector, to encourage more people to consider leaving a charitable gift in their will, once they have looked after their family and friends. To find out more, please send me an email or give me a ring.

It makes such a difference when we can count on your donation year after year, so consider a direct debit or pledge for annual giving. Whatever your level of support, it is very welcome. It's easy to make a secure donation online by visiting www.classicsforall.org.uk, or post a cheque to Classics for All, 51 Achilles Road, London NW6 1DZ.



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