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Roman School

Grammaticus



INTRODUCTION



In this iBook you will explore what education was like for rich Roman children. You will discover the Roman collections held by the National Roman Legion Museum and the National Library of Wales.

Suitable for KS2 pupils. Can be used as a stand alone resource but is best used to compliment the '*Grammaticus - Roman Classroom*' role play session held at the National Roman Legion Museum. See *final page* for *booking details* and accessibility information.

ABOUT THIS BOOK

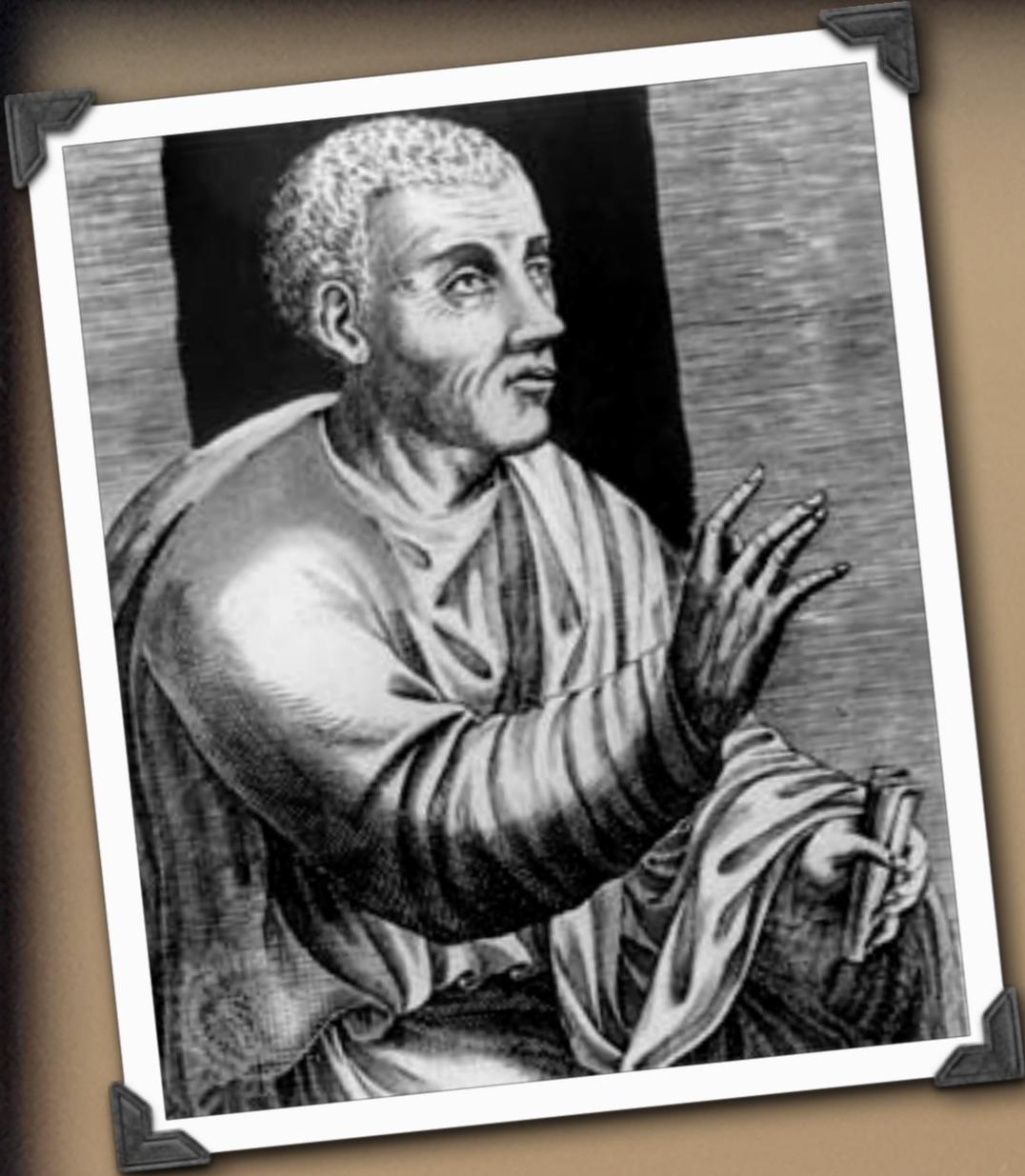
Important!

This is a PDF version of an iBook. All the information you need is in this version but if you want to use the interactive features you will need to download the iBook from iTunes for use on an iPad, iPhone or Apple computer.

We have left images of some of the interactive features so you can decide if you want to download the iBook or not. Interactive items are indicated by the hand symbol below.



GRAMMATICUS



A Roman teacher was known as a Grammaticus. One of the most famous Roman teachers was a man called Quintilian

Female teachers were rare but they did exist. Hypatia of Alexandria taught mathematics, astronomy and philosophy during the 5th Century A.D.

PUNISHMENTS

Boys that did not behave at school would be beaten with a stick!

The poet Martial mentions punishment in his work called 'Epigrams'.



Not all teachers agreed with this form of punishment



Listen to what Quintillian thought about beating naughty boys!

Sir schoolmaster - show pity upon your simple scholars....let your Scythian scourge with its dreadful thongs, and your formidable cane - the schoolmasters sceptre - be laid aside, and sleep until the Ides of October.

PUNISHMENTS

These types of punishment prepared Roman boys for the tough life ahead of them.

If they joined the Roman army they could be beaten with the vine stick of a Centurion.



Did you know that sticks or canes were still used for punishment in some British schools in 2003!

LEARNING AT HOME



The Romans considered the family home the natural place in which a child should grow up and be educated.

Girls would stay home and learn from their mothers about how to be a good Roman wife and look after a household.



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WHAT WAS SCHOOL LIKE IN THE ROMAN TIMES?

What was school like in the Roman times?



Filmed, acted and directed by Lodge Hill Primary School as part of Kids in Museums Takeover Day

Was school
the same for
boys and
girls?

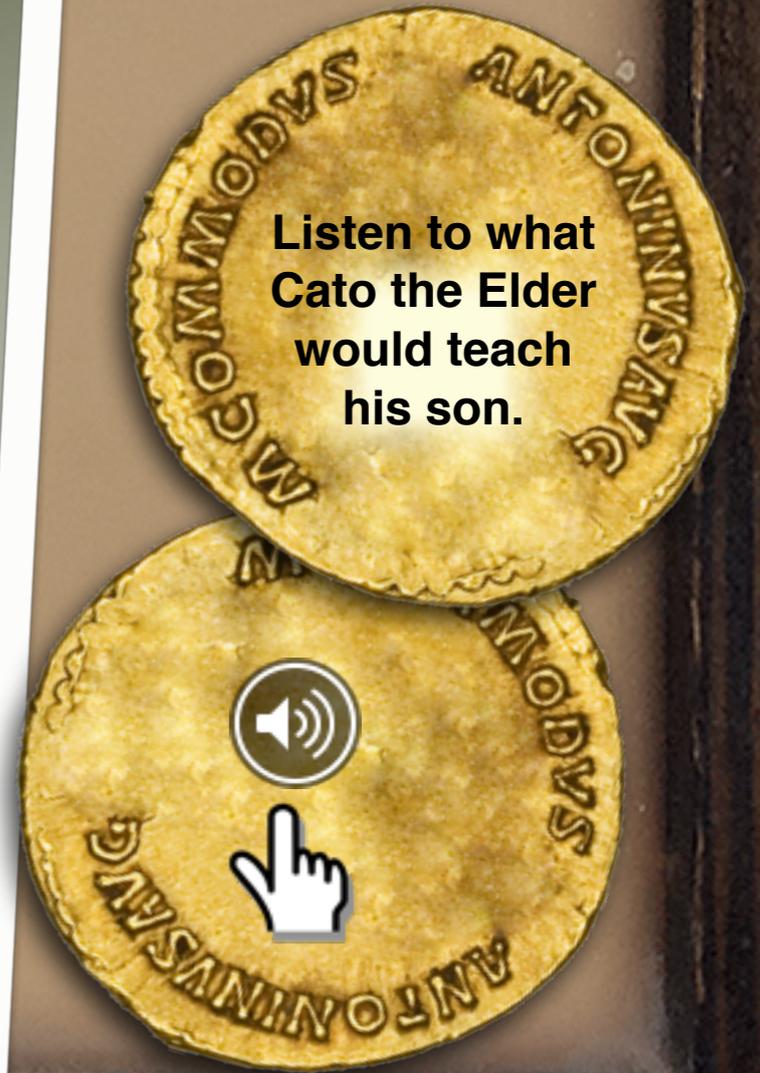
Was school
the same for
rich and poor
children?

FATHER TO SON

The Greek Biographer, Plutarch, gives us some information about what a Roman father would teach his son in his biography of the Roman Statesman - Cato the Elder.



Listen to what Cato the Elder would teach his son.



DAY AT SCHOOL

An Example of a pupil's day at school
from a 3rd century A.D. school

'I go to school. I enter and I say, "Good morning teacher." My slave gives me the tablets, the case; I take out the stilus and sit down at my place. I erase and copy according to the model. Afterwards, I show my writing to the teacher, who makes every kind of correction. When the teacher bids them, the little ones engage in letters and syllables, and one of the older students pronounces them aloud for them. Others recite in order the words to the assistant teacher and write verses. Being in the first group, I take a dictation.'

Click here to
hear about
Augustine of
Hippo's school
days.



THE TWELVE TABLES

Early in their education, boys were encouraged to learn the Twelve Tables. This was a list of Roman laws created in the 5th Century B.C. The learning of these laws was seen as being important in the development of a strong Roman character.

The Roman orator and politician, Cicero, learnt the Twelve Tables as a boy and believed they were one of the most important lessons in Roman Education.

“For we learned the Twelve Tables when schoolboys, as an indispensable lesson.”



LATIN

Learning to write



Sometimes teachers would write letters faintly on a wax tablet so the children could trace over the letters.



Rich Roman boys and girls would learn to read, write and speak in Latin. This was the language of the Romans.

Roman school boys would learn Latin by repeating words and sentences over and over again.



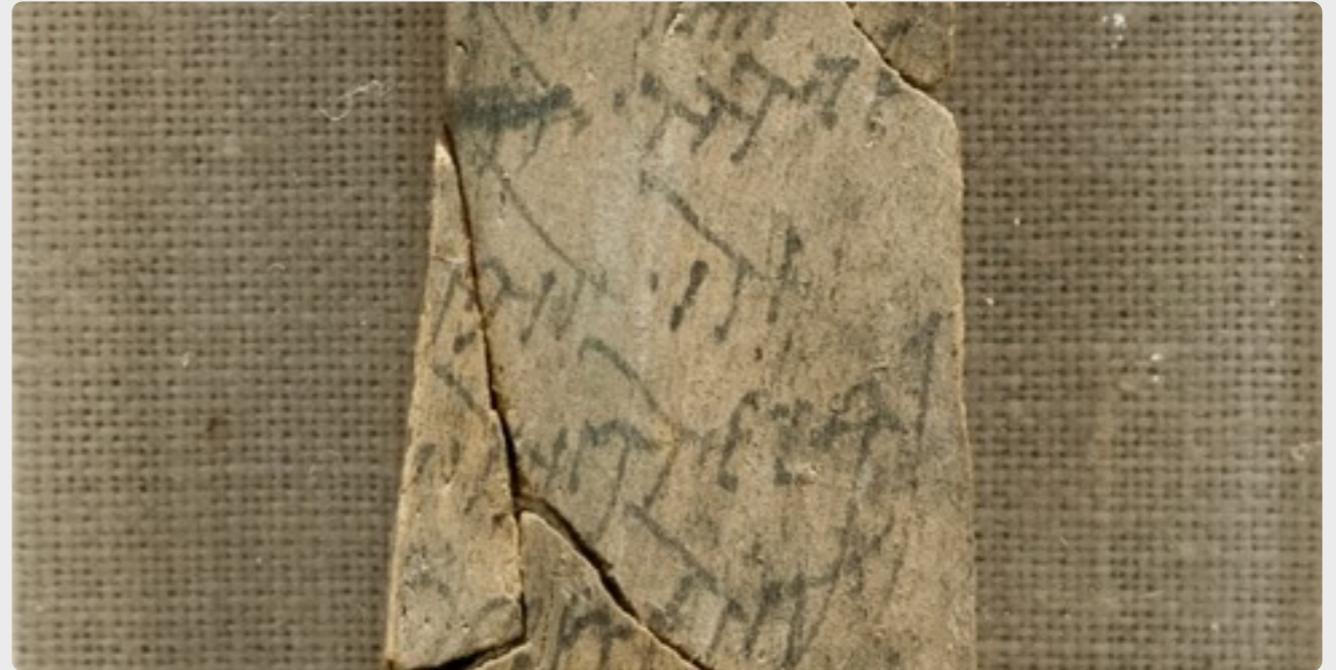
LATIN

Did you know writing was introduced to Britain by the Romans?

Just as we do today, the Romans wrote on anything and everything in order to keep records, entertain and mark ownership.

Can you imagine living in a world without writing?

Where can you find evidence for writing at the National Roman Legion Museum?



This is part of a wooden writing tablet inscribed in ink. It is the oldest handwriting in Wales!



LATIN COMMANDS

Many Roman boys would join the Roman army, so Latin commands and military equipment names would be useful to learn.

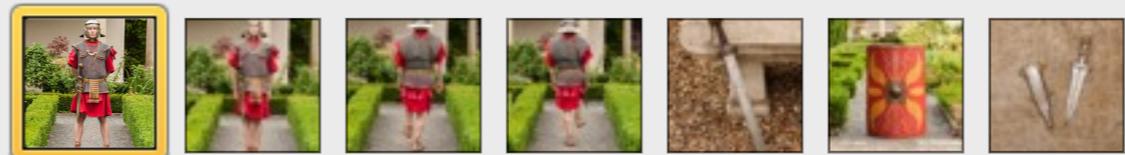


Watch the video to hear some Latin commands.

Learn these words to march like a Roman



LAXARTE! (LAX-AR-TAY) = RELAX



LATIN TEST

Latin has had a big effect on many of today's languages. Look at the similarities and differences between these words:

Test out your knowledge of Latin by finding words in this word search:

LATIN	WELSH	ENGLISH	FRENCH
AURUM	AUR	GOLD	OR
BRACCHIUM	BRAICH	ARM	BRAS
CASTRUM	CASTELL	CASTLE	CHATEAU
DEUS	DUW	GOD	DIEU
LIBER	LLYFR	BOOK	LIVRE
MILLE	MIL	THOUSAND	MILLE
SENATE	SENEDD	SENATE	SENAT
THEATRUM	THEATR	THEATRE	THEATRE

Easy word search



Hard word search



ANCIENT GREEK

Rich Roman boys were expected to learn Ancient Greek as this was used in the Eastern part of the empire.

Roman boys would read and memorize lines from Greek epic poetry and literature



The epic poem the Iliad was a favourite of many boys. This poem was about the Trojan War and the hero Achilles. Here is a gem stone from our collection that has an image of Achilles carved into it.

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GREEK ALPHABET

Practice saying the letters of the Greek alphabet. It tells you how to say the letters on the right.



Watch the video to hear the Greek Alphabet.

α - AL-FAH

β - BAY-TAH

γ - GAM-LAH

δ - DEL-TAH

ε - EP-SI-LON

ζ - ZAY-TAH

η - AY-TAH

θ - THAY-TAH

ι - EYE-O-TAH

κ - CAP-LAH

λ - LAM-DAH

μ - MEW

ν - NEW

ξ - ZAI

ο - OM-E-CRON

π - PIE

ρ - RO

σ - SIG-MAH

τ - TAW

υ - OOP-SI-LON

φ - FIE

χ - KIE

ψ - SIGH

ω - O-MAY-GAH

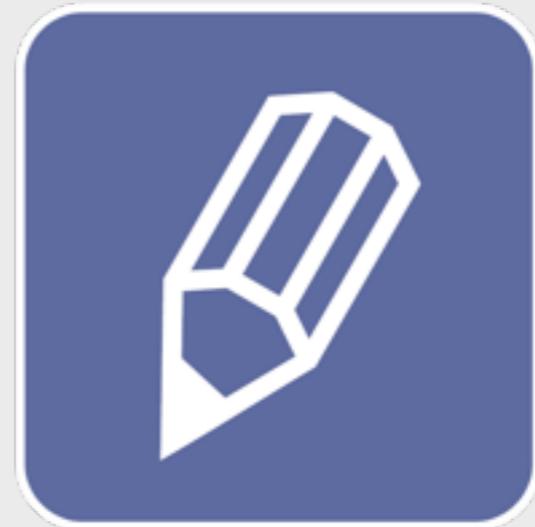


PRACTICE ANCIENT GREEK

Click on the pencil to practice the **first half** of the Ancient Greek alphabet



Click on the pencil to practice the **second half** of the Ancient Greek alphabet



MATHEMATICS

Mathematics was an important subject in the Roman times just as it is today.

To learn their sums Roman boys would often be told to chant "one and one is two, two and two is four..."

Have you ever done this?



In maths lessons children would often use counters called Lupines.



ROMAN NUMERALS

Today we use Arabic numbers to count but the Romans used a different style of numbers called numerals.

You often see them used on clocks and at the end of BBC programmes where the date is given in numerals.



$$I = 1$$

$$II = 2$$

$$V = 5$$

$$X = 10$$

$$XX = 20$$

$$L = 50$$

$$LX = 60$$

$$C = 100$$

ROMAN NUMERAL TEST

I = 1

II = 2

V = 5

X = 10

XX = 20

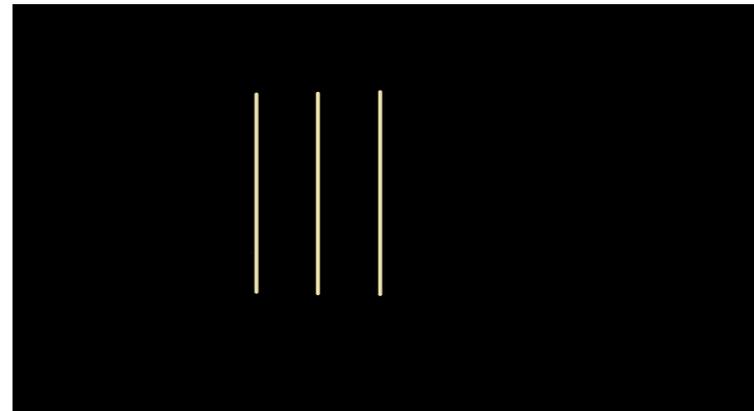
L = 50

LX = 60

C = 100

What is the value of this numeral?

Question 1 of 5



- A. 2
- B. 4
- C. 3
- D. 30

ROMAN GRAVESTONES



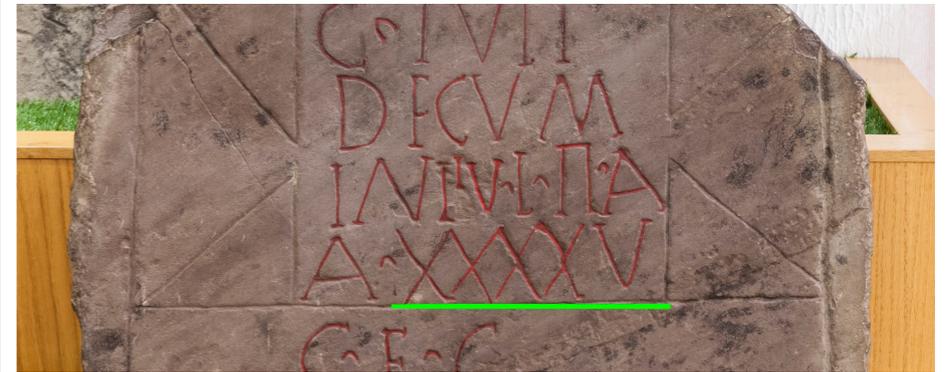
Many of the Roman gravestones on display at the museum tell us the age at which the person died.

Test your knowledge of Roman numerals to work out the ages of some of the people mentioned on the gravestones.

We have underlined their age in green.

Question 1 of 4

This gravestone belongs to Gaius Julius Decuminus. How old was he when he died?



- A. 35
- B. 45
- C. 55
- D. 43



BOOKING INFORMATION

Grammaticus - Roman Classroom

Discover how the Romans educated their children in this cross curricula role-play session. Looking at language, numeracy and literacy pupils find out more about Roman society under the strict guidance of a Roman school teacher.

Suitable for Key stage 2 classes.

For more information on this and our other education workshops visit our website:

www.museum.wales/roman/learning/

For information on accessibility visit:

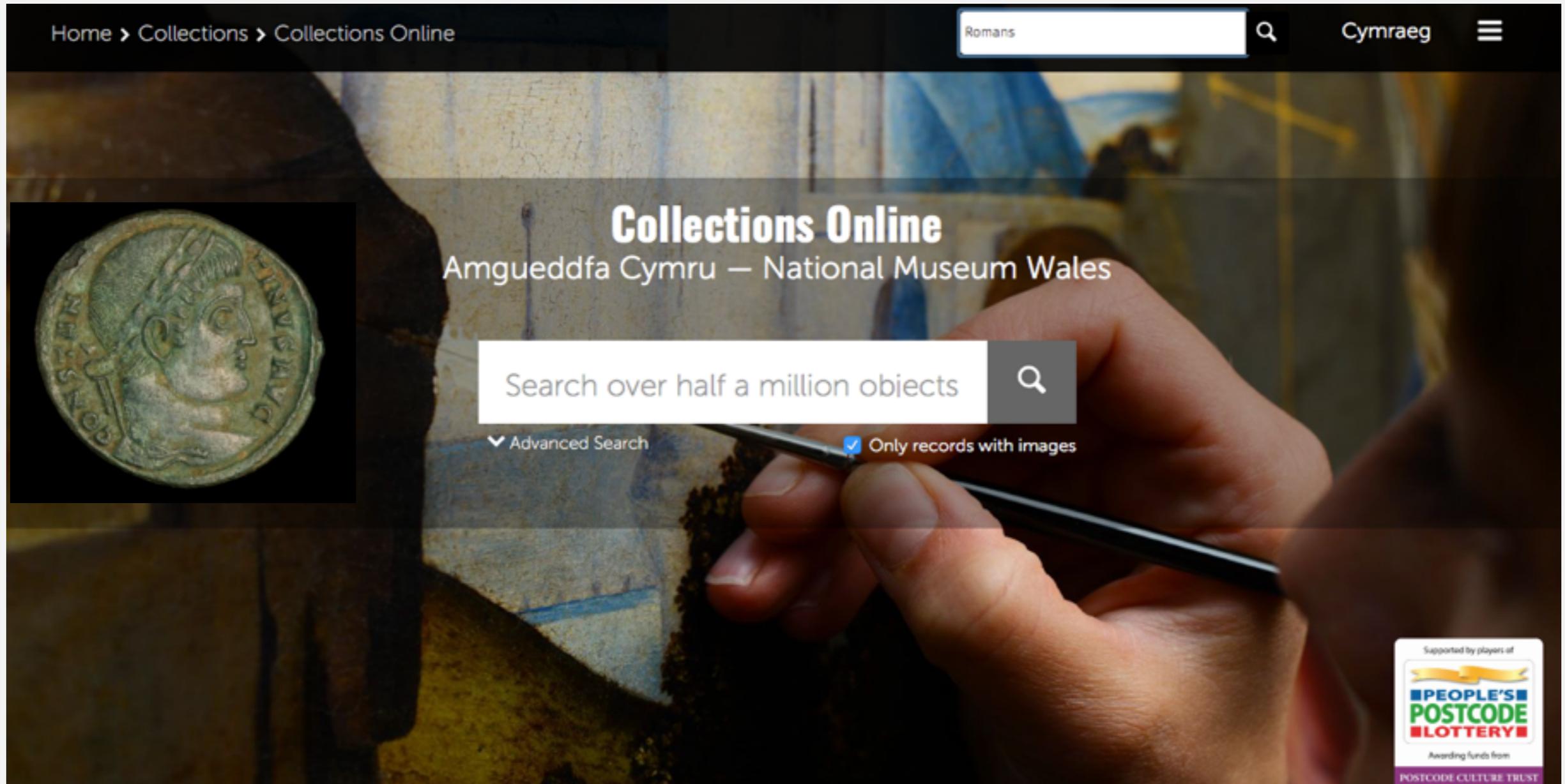
<https://www.apple.com/uk/accessibility/ipad/>



All schools and groups must book in advance, even if they are not booking a workshop.

Call (029) 20573546 to book.

Get creative with Museum collections!



Search over half a million objects and access trustworthy information to create your own digital projects!

Improve your digital competencies by Planning, sourcing and searching the museums's digital collection.

<https://museum.wales/collections/online/>

Add your story to the history of Wales!



Casgliad y Werin Cymru People's Collection Wales



Discover fascinating photographs, documents and stories about the history and culture of Wales.

Search from Hwb or the People's Collection website.

www.peoplescollection.wales



Upload your own classroom projects to the website and develop key digital skills linked to the Digital Competence Framework.



Use lesson plans to understand metadata & copyright.

