

# WEST BERKSHIRE MUSEUM

Schools Newsletter | February-March 2026

This e-newsletter contains important information about the **resumption of school visits to the Museum** and the **museum artefact loan boxes** as well as the **February and April school holiday family offer**.

## Resumption of school visits to Museum

**Good news! School visits to the Museum on Mondays and Tuesdays (subject to booking) when we closed to the public are resuming in the school summer term (April-July 2026).**

As usual, we will be offering \*free\* self-led visits (with \*free\* gallery trails). This can always be combined with a led museum session (£45 for a class of up to 35 and £22.50 for a class of 15 or fewer pupils).

Please see the **brochure** (sent with this e-newsletter) for information on the museum sessions available in school (outreach) and in the Museum. *We will continue to offer an Anglo-Saxon outreach session going forward.*

For more information or to book, contact Clare.

## Museum artefact loan box scheme

We have a small selection of themed boxes containing real and/or replica artefacts as well as a set of teachers' notes on the contents.

A West Berkshire Museum artefact loan box can be borrowed by a school (subject to availability) for up to three weeks. It costs £15 per box. A school representative must collect and return the museum artefact loan box on the agreed dates/times.

For more information on the scheme, please see the attached FAQ leaflet and list of box themes. To enquire about booking a box, please email Clare.

## February half term holiday

At West Berkshire Museum (Fri 20<sup>th</sup>) and Shaw House (Wed 18<sup>th</sup>), we've a family craft. Additionally, at the Museum, there's Museum Explorers (Tues 17<sup>th</sup>, a relaxed morning for SEND children and their families) that's free but must be booked online: [www.westberkshireheritage.org.whats-on](http://www.westberkshireheritage.org.whats-on)

## Current exhibitions

**Special exhibition: The Works of Marjorie Heather.** Art exhibition featuring a local artist.

**Special exhibition: Treasure Through Time.** The history of treasure including local finds.

**Special exhibition: Focus on Compton.** The history and archaeology of this parish.

**Special exhibition: Volunteers' Choice.**

Museum volunteers choose their favourite objects in the museum collection.

**Permanent exhibition (downstairs): Lives and Landscape.** Telling the story of West Berkshire in chronological order.



*Pictured above: West Berkshire Museum school session.*

Also see the West Berkshire Heritage website for information on the April school holiday family events at West Berkshire Museum & Shaw House.

## For more information and/or to book:

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