

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 20th) and Shaw House (Wed 18th), we've a family craft. Additionally, at the Museum, there's Museum Explorers (Tues 17th, a relaxed morning for SEND children and their families) that's free but must be booked online:

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:

**Clare Bromley (Ms),
Learning and Participation Officer.**
West Berkshire Museum, The Wharf,
Newbury RG14 5AS.

Telephone: 01635 519231

Email: clare.bromley@westberks.gov.uk



West Berkshire
C O U N C I L