

WEST BERKSHIRE MUSEUM

Schools Newsletter | April-May 2026

This e-newsletter contains important information about the **summer school visits to the Museum** and the **museum artefact loan boxes** as well as the **Roman School Days in the next academic year**.

Summer school visits to Museum

School visits to the Museum on Mondays and Tuesdays (subject to booking) when we closed to the public are available in the 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 up to 16 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 this and the next academic year 2026-27.*

For more information or to book, please email 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.

FREE Roman School Days (October 2026)

At West Berkshire Museum during October, we'll be welcoming back Butser IX Legion (Roman re-enactors) for the Roman School Days: Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th October. Subject to availability, you can book a morning session (9.30am-11.30am) or an afternoon (1pm-3pm) on these days. As usual, you will find out about Roman life and the army from the

Current exhibitions

***NEW* special exhibition** in Gallery 10 about how museum artefacts are stored, transported and displayed.

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: Story of the area.



Pictured: Butser IX Legion outside West Berkshire Museum on Roman Family Day Oct 2025.

historical re-enactors (pictured above), take part in a gallery activity (dressing up and trail) and Roman crafts. We continue to offer the event for FREE. Places are limited so please email Clare ASAP.

"I could not fault the session and felt that the children engaged so well. They have spoken about it today at school and have said how much they enjoyed it." Teacher, Roman School Day Oct '25.

For more information and/or to book:

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West Berkshire
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