



Newport Roman Villa When the owners of a nearby house sank new foundations for a garage in 1926, they made an incredible discovery. It was the site of a Roman farmhouse that had been built around the year 280 AD. The Romans were fine designers and engineers and this is reflected in the remains of the villa, much of which is still in excellent condition: including one of the best preserved domestic bath houses in Britain. The hypocaust system graphically displays the famed Roman central heating and a Roman herb garden has been recreated outside exactly as it would have been nearly 2,000 years ago. Newport Roman Villa has a dedicated education room. The Education Officer is a trained archaeologist and qualified teacher with over 25 years of teaching experience. Each workshop is designed to match the curriculum needs of each visiting group. The museum has worked closely with specialists to make the workshops and resources as accessible as possible. The activities are very hands-on and use a variety of approaches to enable all learning styles to be accommodated. Pre and post visit resources are available.

At Home With The Romans (KS1)

Pupils will explore the villa. On their tour they will see labels using 'Imprint 4' to help them recognise what they see and develop their reading skills. They will handle artefacts and work out what they were used for. From this, the pupils will build up a picture of how the Romans lived. They will talk about what materials the Romans used (and also which ones they did not have). The pupils will create Roman style meals in the replica kitchen area, design a mosaic and try Romano-British style clothes. Their learning will be consolidated by getting them to compare how we live now with how the Romans lived.



Curriculum Links: History, Science & English

What The Romans Did For Us (KS2)



Pupils will use artefacts to consolidate their knowledge of what daily life was like in both the Iron Age and in Roman times. The investigation will use three basic human needs: food, clothing and shelter to scaffold the pupils' learning. This can be extended into considering how technology, culture and beliefs were changed by the Romans. By the end the pupils will know what changed, why it changed and be able to give some assessment of how much daily life changed between 200BC and 200AD.

This will be done through hands on activities which include looking at the food introduced by the Romans in a replica kitchen area, building arches, trying on costume, and comparing Iron Age and Roman coins. Pupils will also compare the armour of a Roman legionary and a Celtic warrior and discover how bathing changed after the Romans came to Britain. During a tour of the villa and photo hunt they will learn how our knowledge of the past comes from the archaeological excavations at the villa.

Curriculum Links: History, Science, English & Maths

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Why Did The Romans Win? (KS2)

This workshop is aimed at KS2. Pupils will explore replica Celtic and Roman armour and try it on. Next, they will look for similarities and differences. Pupils will conclude that these are not enough to explain why Roman armies were so successful. This leads to the consideration of what really made a difference: training, tactics and the use of siege weapons. The pupils will investigate the science behind catapults and use replicas to see how many model Celtic warriors they can knock down! This workshop will help the pupils understand Pulleys and Levers.

Curriculum Links: History, Science, Maths, Design & Technology

Local Study: The Isle Of Wight During Roman Times (KS3)

Newport Roman Villa is an excellent site to explore how archaeologists have used archaeological evidence to interpret the past and reconstruct parts of the building. Pupils will examine local artefacts, and the villa's remains, learn how the Island traded with the wider Roman Empire, and how the classical world influenced the construction of the villa. There will be hands-on activities that examine building techniques, the weaving of cloth, and pottery analysis and reconstruction. Pupils will also compare the replica armour of a Celtic warrior, a Roman legionary and a Roman auxiliary soldier, and explore wider issues of citizenship in the Roman Empire.

Curriculum Links: History, Geography & Citizenship



Classical Civilisation & The Isle Of Wight (KS4 & GCSE)

One of the most important inventions that humans have made is writing. Newport Roman Villa can help pupils to understand the legacy of the classical world and investigate original architectural features and artefacts from Roman times. Students can also use replica Vindolanda ink pens and wooden postcards to write their own Vindolanda tablets in Latin.

Curriculum Links: History, Classics & Latin



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