



Welcome to Classical Civilisation

We're really looking forward to seeing you all in September and getting started with the course! To give you the best possible start, you will need to complete these tasks:

1. For World of the Hero: Mr Castle would like you to read Rieu's translation of the Iliad in its entirety. You can collect copies during the Welcome to Sixth Form event.
2. For Love & Relationships: Mrs Nicoll would like you to complete the research tasks detailed below. You can use the internet or reference books to which you have access.
3. For Greek Theatre: Mr Maskell would like you to complete the reading and research tasks given below.

Have a wonderful summer and see you soon!

Love and Relationships

As part of your preparation for our work on this paper next year, it would be useful if you could familiarise yourself with the authors whose work we will be studying: Plato, Seneca, Sappho and Ovid. The former two are our philosophers, the latter pair, poets and the authors of our set texts.

Plato

- Find out what you can about Plato's life:
- when was he born?
- when did he die?
- what do we know about his life?
- what form does his writing take?
- what are his most famous works?
- Who was Socrates? Find out what you can about his life and particularly his downfall and death?

Seneca

- Find out about Seneca's life and his relationship with the imperial house, especially Nero.
- How and why did Seneca die?
- Who were the Stoics and what were the main principles of Stoicism?
- What do we mean by the term Stoic today?

Sappho

- What do we know about Sappho's life?
- In what ways did her work influence later writers?
- What evidence is there for her sexual desires or practices?

Ovid

- What do we know about Ovid's life?
- when was he born?
- What was the political backdrop to his life?
- What important event took place in 31 BCE and why was this so significant?
- When and where was Ovid exiled and what was the apparent reason for his punishment?
- What survives of Ovid's poetry? What sort of works is he known for?

Greek Theatre

Please research the following points in preparation for starting the course in September.

- What can you find out about the lives of the playwrights Sophocles, Euripides and Aristophanes?
- Why and when were plays put on in ancient Greece?

Please also read the article found here:

<https://putneyhigh.fireflycloud.net/resource.aspx?id=457125&officeint=on>

A hard copy will be given out at the Welcome event.