

# Knowledge Organiser Latin: Meet the Family

## Vindolanda

Nearly 2,000 years ago, Britain was conquered by the Romans, and the Britons became part of the huge Roman Empire.

About 75 years after the Romans arrived, the Roman Emperor Hadrian came to Britain and ordered his soldiers to build a great wall. The soldiers then had to patrol the wall. It is known as Hadrian's Wall, and you can still see parts of it today. It stretches across the north of Britain from east to west, and passes near to a place called Vindolanda.

The Roman family in the Minimus book lived in Vindolanda.

Vindolanda is a Roman fort to guard the major road known as the Stanegate. Men stationed at Vindolanda fort played a big part in the construction of Hadrian's wall, and later served to patrol the wall.



## Latin Language

Before the Romans came, very few people could read or write in Britain. The Romans wrote down their history, their literature and their laws. Their language was called **Latin**, and it wasn't long before some people in Britain started to use it too.

We've still got lots of words and phrases today that come from Latin. Words like 'exit', which means 'he or she goes out', and 'pedestrian', which means 'going on foot'.

Our coins are based on a Roman design and some of the lettering is in Latin. Written around the edge of some £1 coins is the phrase 'decus et tutamen' which means 'glory and protection'.

## Key Vocab

<b>quis es?</b>	Who are you ? (to 1 person)
<b>qui estis?</b>	Who are you? (to more than 1 person)
<b>mater</b>	Mother
<b>pater</b>	Father
<b>filia</b>	Daughter
<b>filius</b>	Son
<b>īnfans</b>	Little child
<b>servi</b>	Slaves
<b>sum</b>	I am
<b>es</b>	You are
<b>sumus</b>	We are
<b>estis</b>	You are
<b>sedete!</b>	Sit!
<b>salve</b>	Hello
<b>salvete</b>	Hello (to more than 1 person)
<b>omnes</b>	Everyone
<b>quis?</b>	Who?
<b>quid?</b>	What?
<b>felix dies tibi sit!</b>	Happy birthday! ( <i>may you have a happy day!</i> )
<b>gratias tibi ago</b>	I thank you
<b>famosa</b>	Famous
<b>euge!</b>	Hurray!
<b>Empire</b>	A group of different countries with one leader

Some of the ruins at Vindolanda – here are the remains of a hypocaust (kind of like central heating!)

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## Meet the Family who live in Vindolanda



Lepidina is the mother



Flavius is the father. He is the fort commander of Vindolanda



Iulius is the son



Flavia is the daughter



Rufus is the young child



Corinthus and Candidus are slaves



Pandora is a slave



Vibrissa is the cat



Minimus is the mouse



### Who are the slaves?



Corinthus is a slave from Greece. He has lived with Flavius and Lepidina for many years. He is very clever, and can read and write well. He can speak Greek as well as Latin.

Candidus has always lived in Britain. When the family arrived at Vindolanda, they bought him as a slave. He speaks a Celtic language, and is learning to speak Latin. He is a good cook, so he is a valuable slave, and he is treated kindly by Flavius and Lepidina.



Pandora is a new slave girl. Lepidina is pleased to have her, because she is a very good hairdresser.



Slaves were not paid for their work but were given a little pocket-money. Sometimes slaves saved their money to buy their freedom. If they had been good and faithful slaves, they might be given their freedom in their master's will. Or he might invite them to join him at the evening dinner. This was a sign that they were now free.

Remember! A noun is a naming word for a person, a place or a thing.

### WORDS TO REMEMBER

sum I am  
es you are\*  
sumus we are

estis you are\*\*  
sedēte! sit!\*\*  
salvē hello\*

salvēte hello\*\*  
omnēs everyone  
quis? who?  
quid? what?

\* you (one person) \*\* you (more than one person)



## Slaves

Slaves were an important part of Roman life. Slaves did everything in the Roman world.

Slaves were considered property and had no legal rights.

Slaves with skills or education worked as teachers, accountants, doctors, engineers, craftsmen, and served in the homes of the wealthy. Most of these slaves were treated well.

Greek slaves especially were in high demand because they were well educated. Skilled slaves were allowed to earn money and keep it.



Mosaic showing two slaves serving wine to a man.

