



Campaign to teach ancient Greek and Latin in British schools

Campaign for the return of ancient Greek and Latin in British schools began writers, actors and historians in Britain. Head of the campaign is a historian, writer and presenter of historical emissions, Betani Hugo.

According to the newspaper Sunday Times, its strong support for the project have expressed, inter alia, the Mayor of London Boris Johnson, the playwright Tom Stoppard, writer of detective novels, Colin Dexter and actress Joanna Lamle.

"They all say the beneficiary of learning classical languages at school" refers to the publication of the British newspaper.

"I did what I am," says Boris Johnson. "One of the best things that happened to me is that I had to do 11 years of Latin and ancient Roman than 12," says Colin Dexter. He taught ancient Greek and Latin before he became a successful writer.

The Betani Hugo, which has been shown on British television documentary about ancient Sparta, King Minos and Helen points out that there is increased interest in these languages.

"The film 300 for the Battle of Thermopylae has collected 72 million dollars the first weekend of visibility. The series Minimus Latin books starring a mouse, has sold 115,000 copies. Every week I receive over 150 messages in my e-mail from people telling me: "always loved classical languages. Where can I go for lessons?". We know that there is much appetite," he explains.

The British presenter and historian, created a special website at www.classicsforall.com.

The schools want to collaborate with teachers of ancient Greek or Latin may find there the staff and adequate records.

Sponsors - lovers of classical studies, have already strengthened the campaign with 250,000 pounds, while the goal is to collect this amount each year.

The promoters of the campaign aim to introduce the ancient Greek and Latin in the curriculum 100 public schools in 2020.

This week they intend to meet with Education Minister Nick Gibb to convince him to include the teaching of two languages in the curriculum of the country.

Today in Britain, only 16% of public schools taught one of the two languages.

The so-called "independent" schools, the figure rises to 70%.

Each year 60 teachers retire classical languages, but the Ministry of Education hires only 27, created a void difficult to fill. Furthermore, parents seeking to teach their children ancient Greek or Latin, are increasing.

According to research cited by Betani Hugo, students are taught classical languages more easily absorbed into adulthood, from the labor market.

American study has shown that students taught Latin are better in English, mathematics, and learn more easily other foreign languages.

"It is a tragedy in the Greek sense, to deprive the children of this opportunity," said the Sunday The Times Hugo.

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