

Children in Pompeii: the Invisible Majority?

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01 April 2017



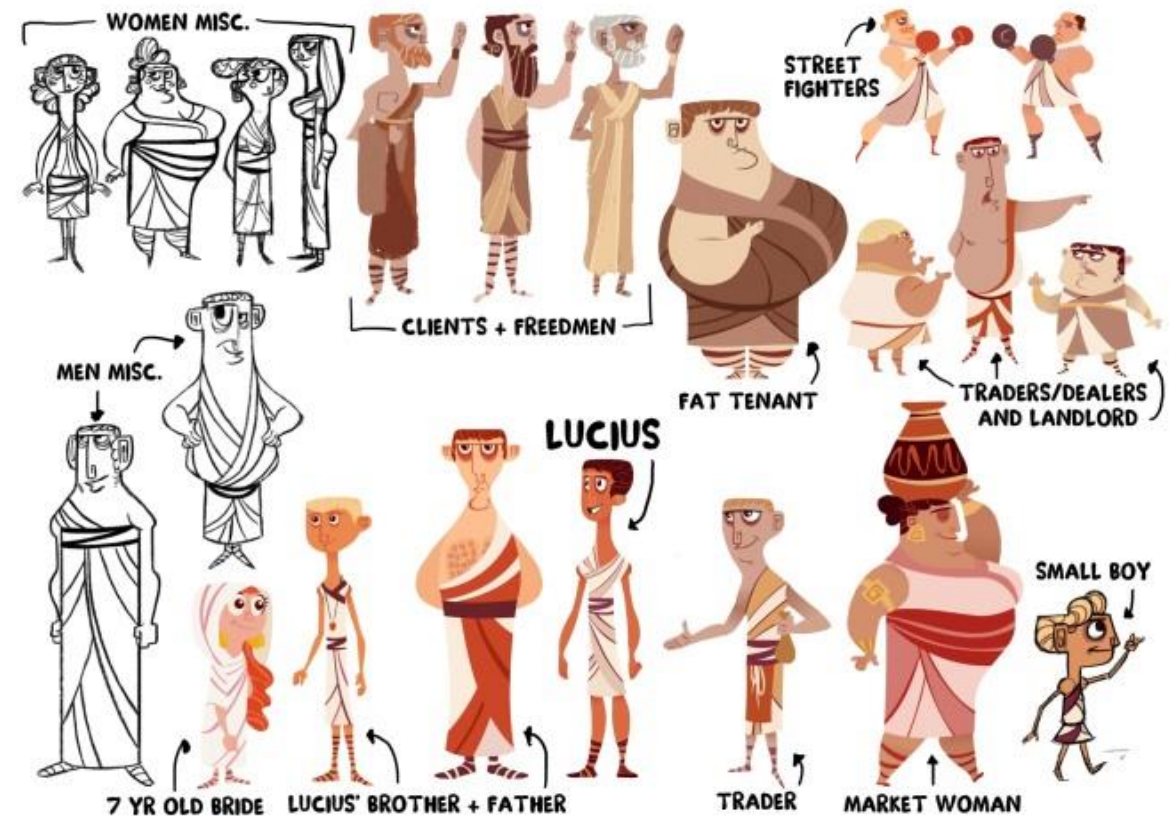
Creating Roman Children

DEMOGRAPHY

Average life expectancy c. 30 years

Life span – not so different, but only 7% of population over 60 years old

Up to 50% of the population less than 18 years old



The critical problem

SOURCES ON CHILDREN AND/OR ROMAN HISTORY BLIND TO CHILDREN

Ancient writers adult males – there are no sources written by children.

Modern books on Pompeii lacking in children?

Most Latin writers are in fact well over the age of 50, thus represent or idealise/demonise children.

Houses and Society in Herculaneum and Pompeii

Roman Pompeii: Space and Society

Present in imagery



Impetus to have children in Roman Pompeii

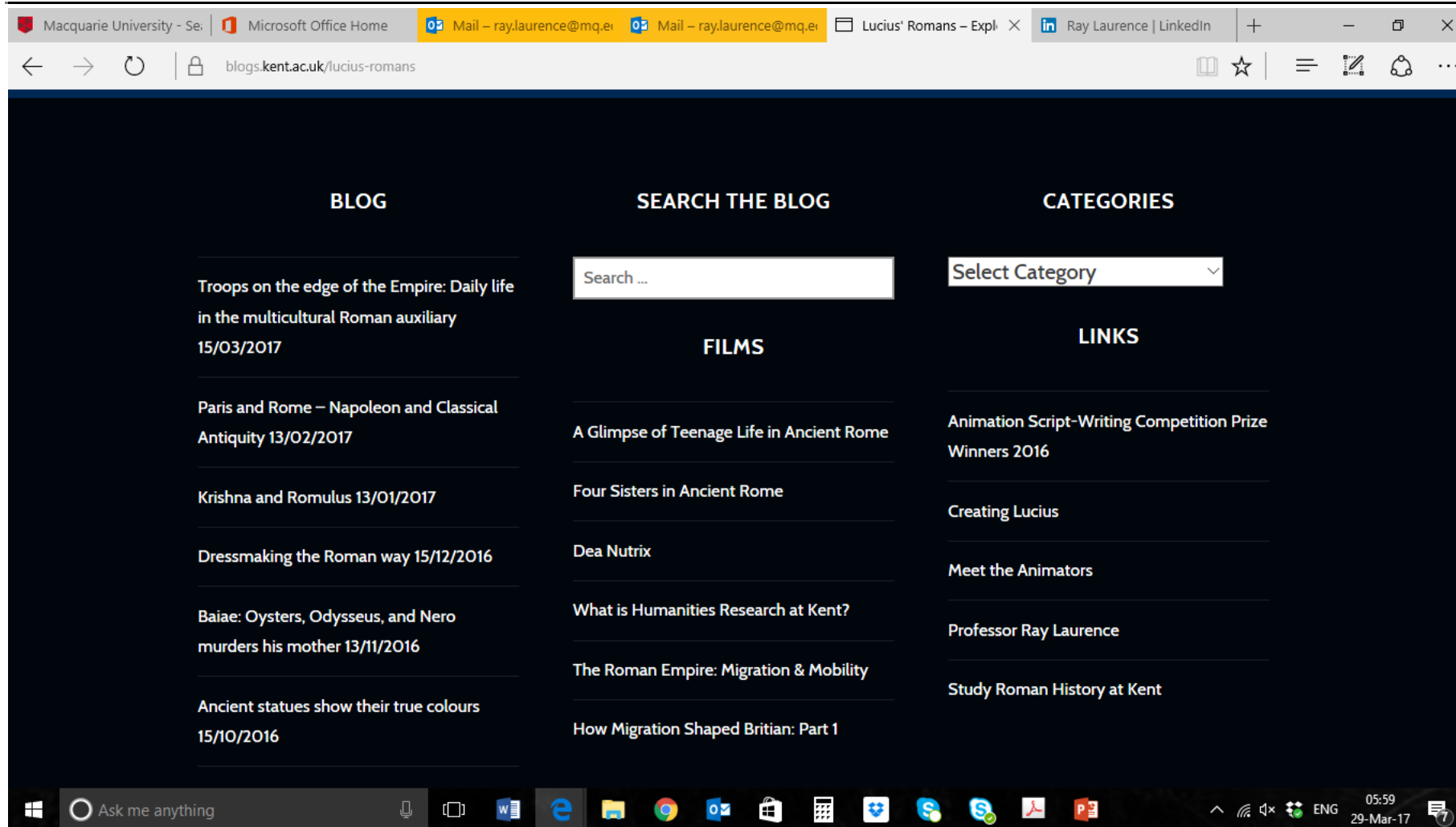
FUSION OF RESEARCH AND IMPACT

- *Growing Up and Growing Old in Ancient Rome*
- *Cultural History of Childhood and the Family*
- University of Oslo – Tiny Voices Project
- Academic interest in agency in the Roman world – children's agency in the making of urbanism important, but challenging.
- Please come and teach your son's primary school class about the Romans.
- Met an animator –
- TED.Ed commissioned a film
- Wrote animation script – recorded animation script



After animation made

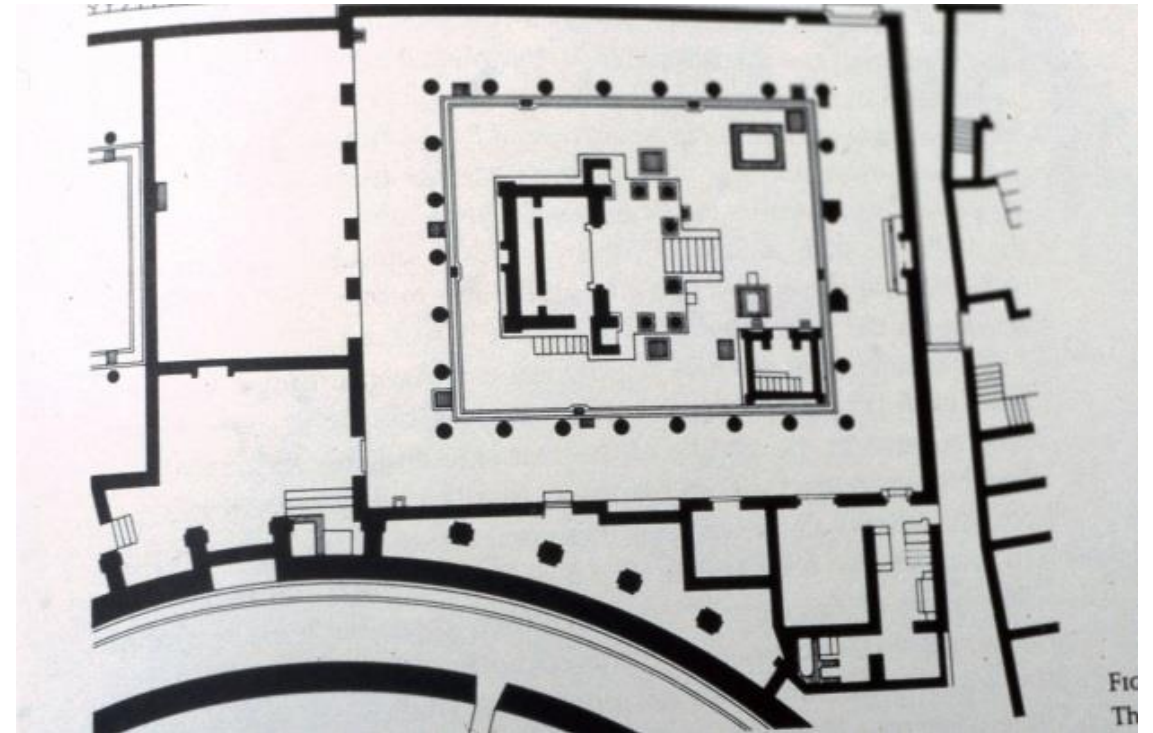
2012-17 – 8 MILLION YOUTUBE VIEWS



<https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/lucius-romans/>

Old news – Tiny Decurions

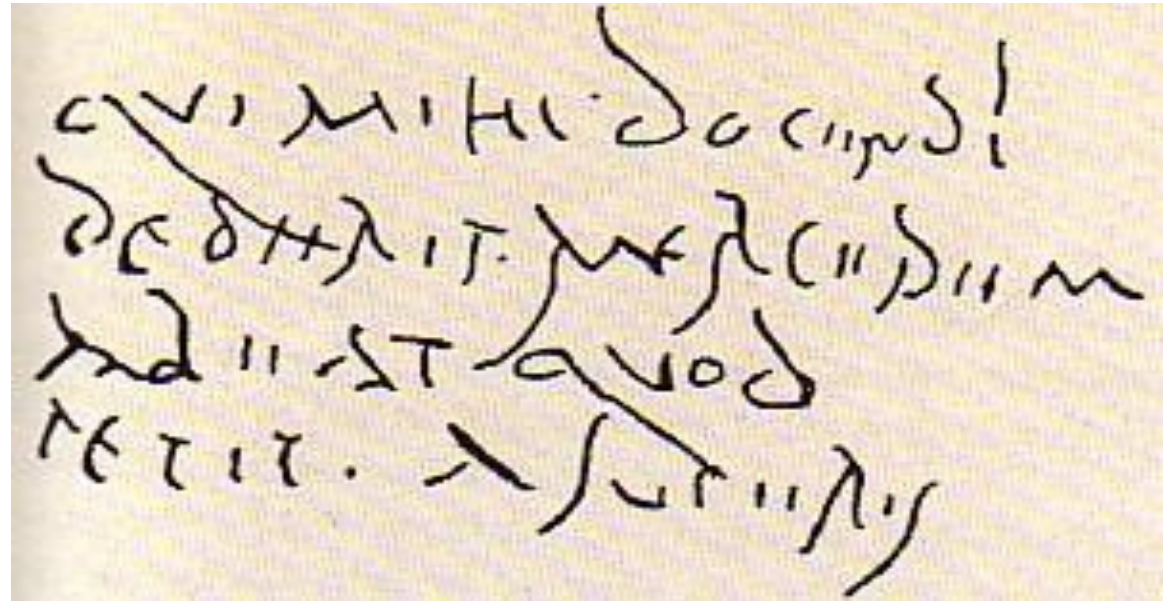
- Inscriptions point to more than one child less than 10 years old are members of the town council.
- One rebuilds temple of Isis.
- How might such children appear in public?



Ara Pacis – children in public art



Qui mihi docendi
dederit mercedem
(h)abeat quod
petit a superis
(CIL 4.8562)

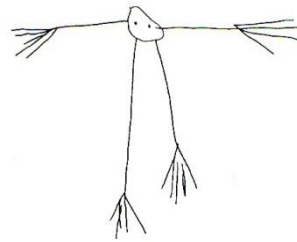


*Whoever has paid me a fee for teaching, let him
have what he seeks from the gods*

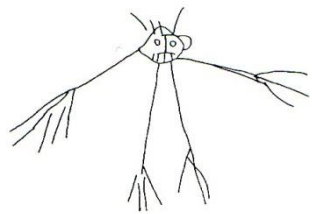
School



Taking graffiti seriously



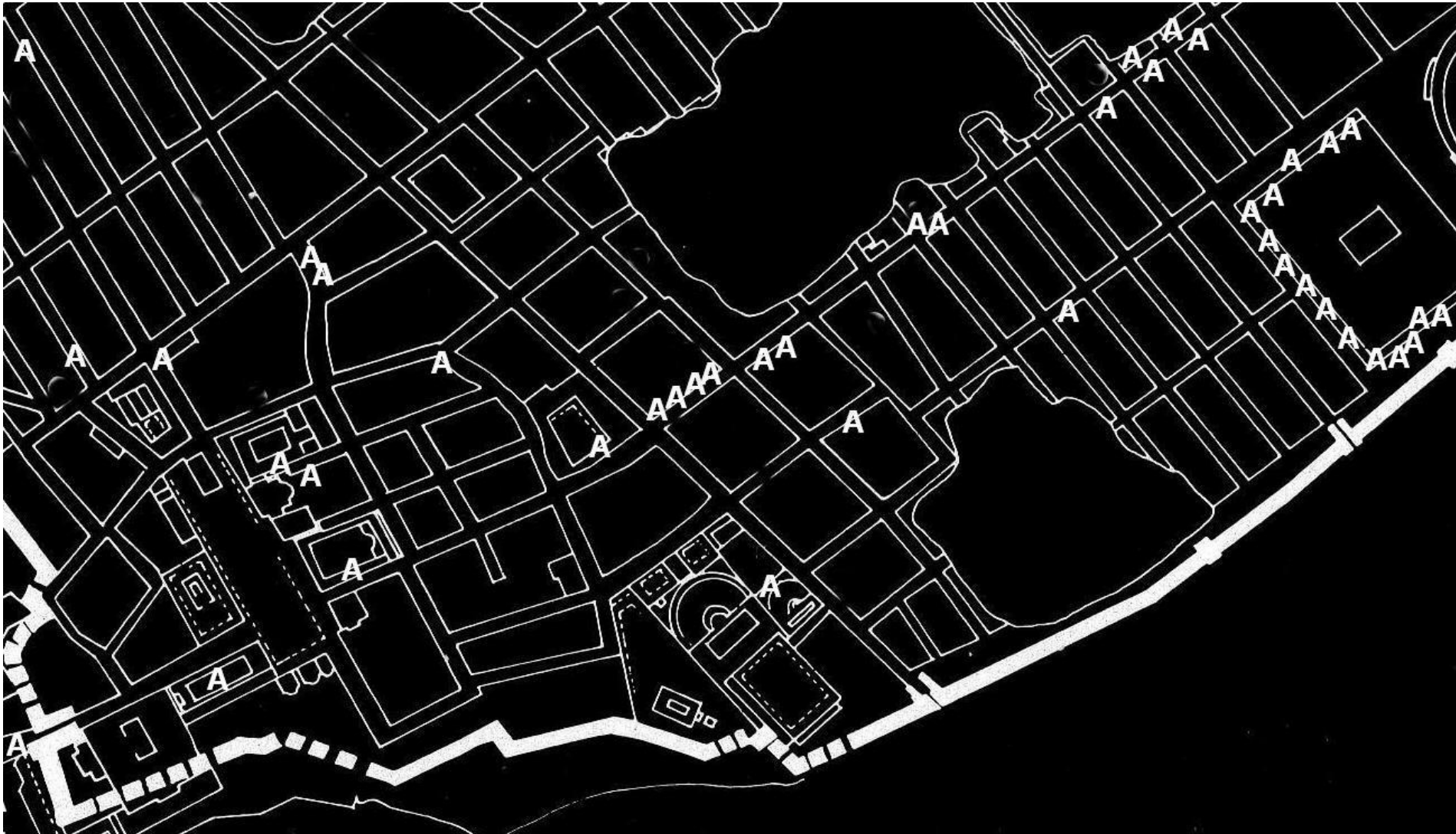
634 Pompeji IX 11,2:
Außenwand. H. 9 cm



633 Pompeji IX 11,3:
Außenwand. H. 8,5 cm



Alphabets in Public Space

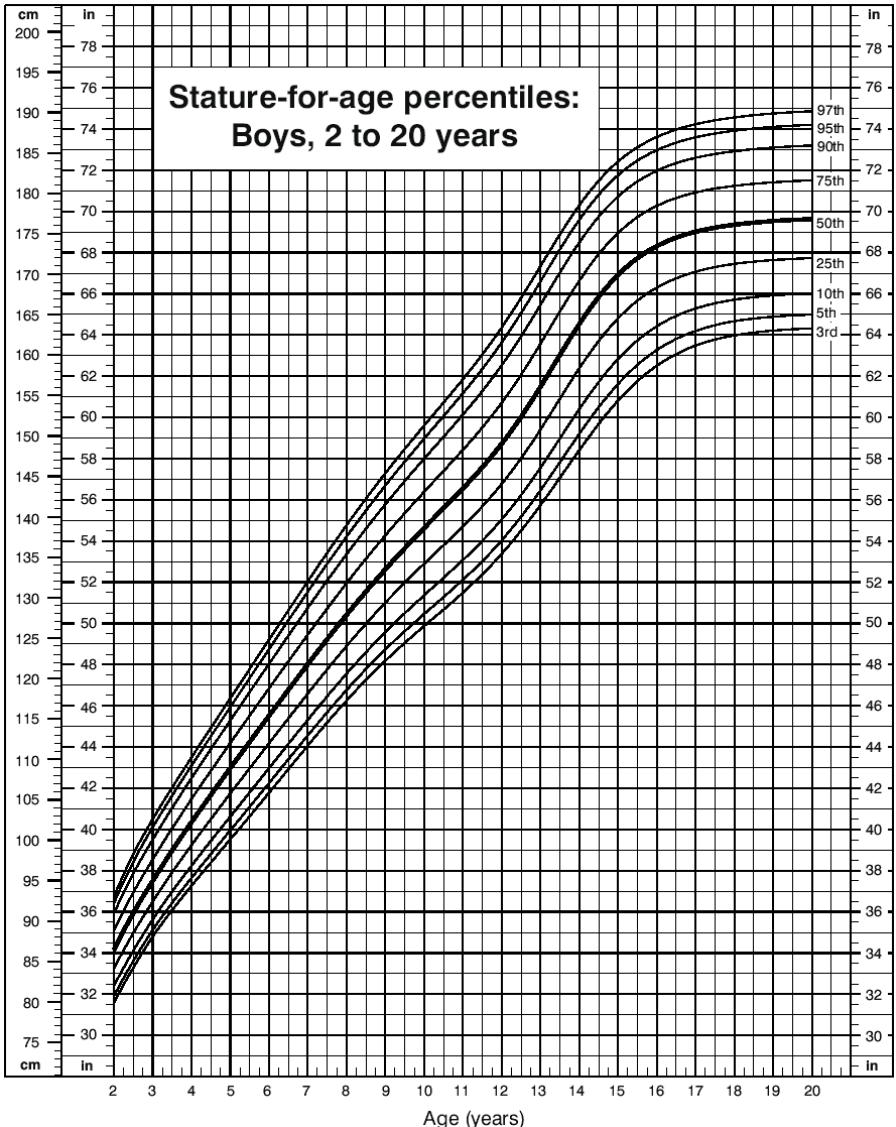


Teeth and Health in Childhood



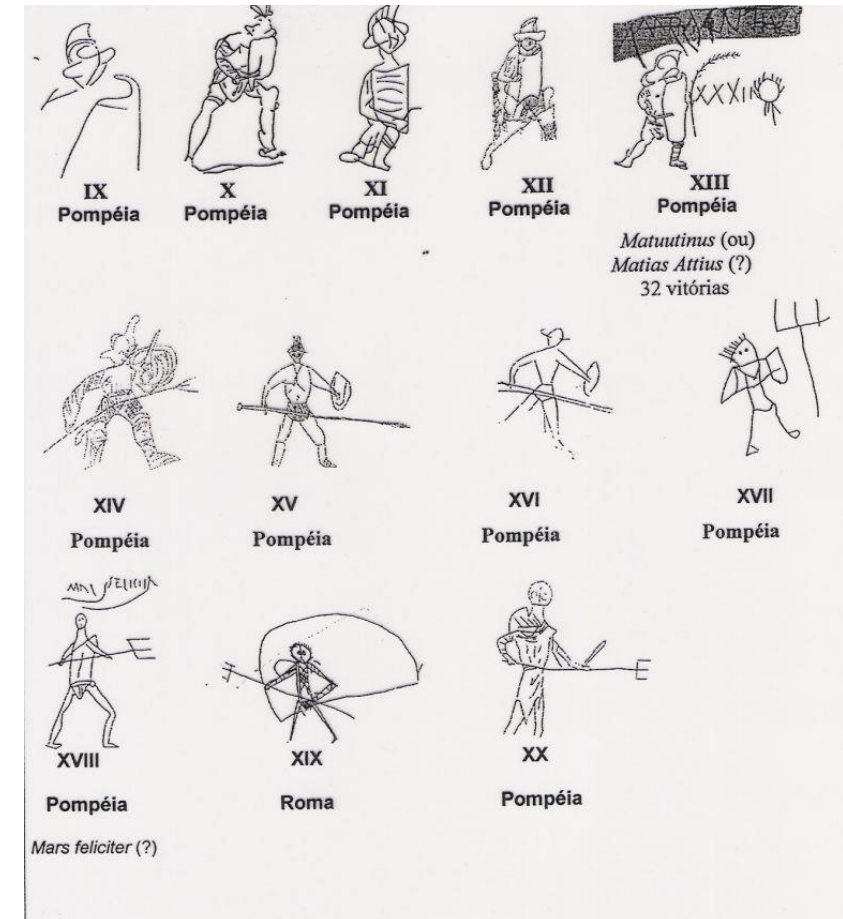
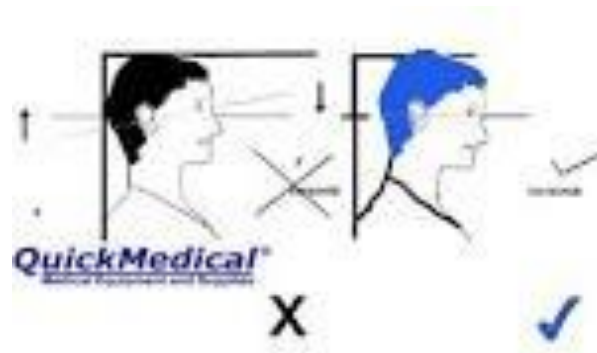
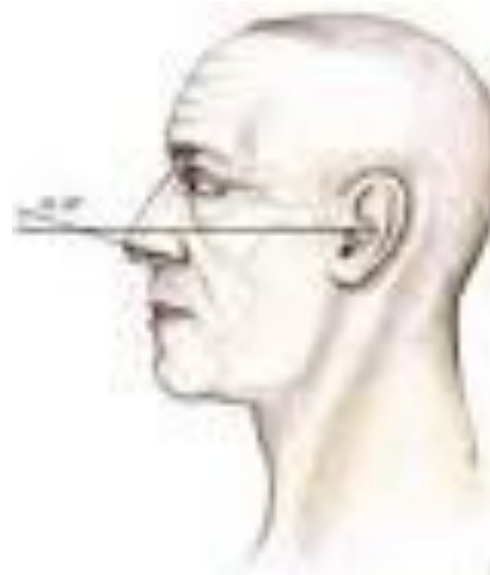


Measuring Children – Measuring Pompeii

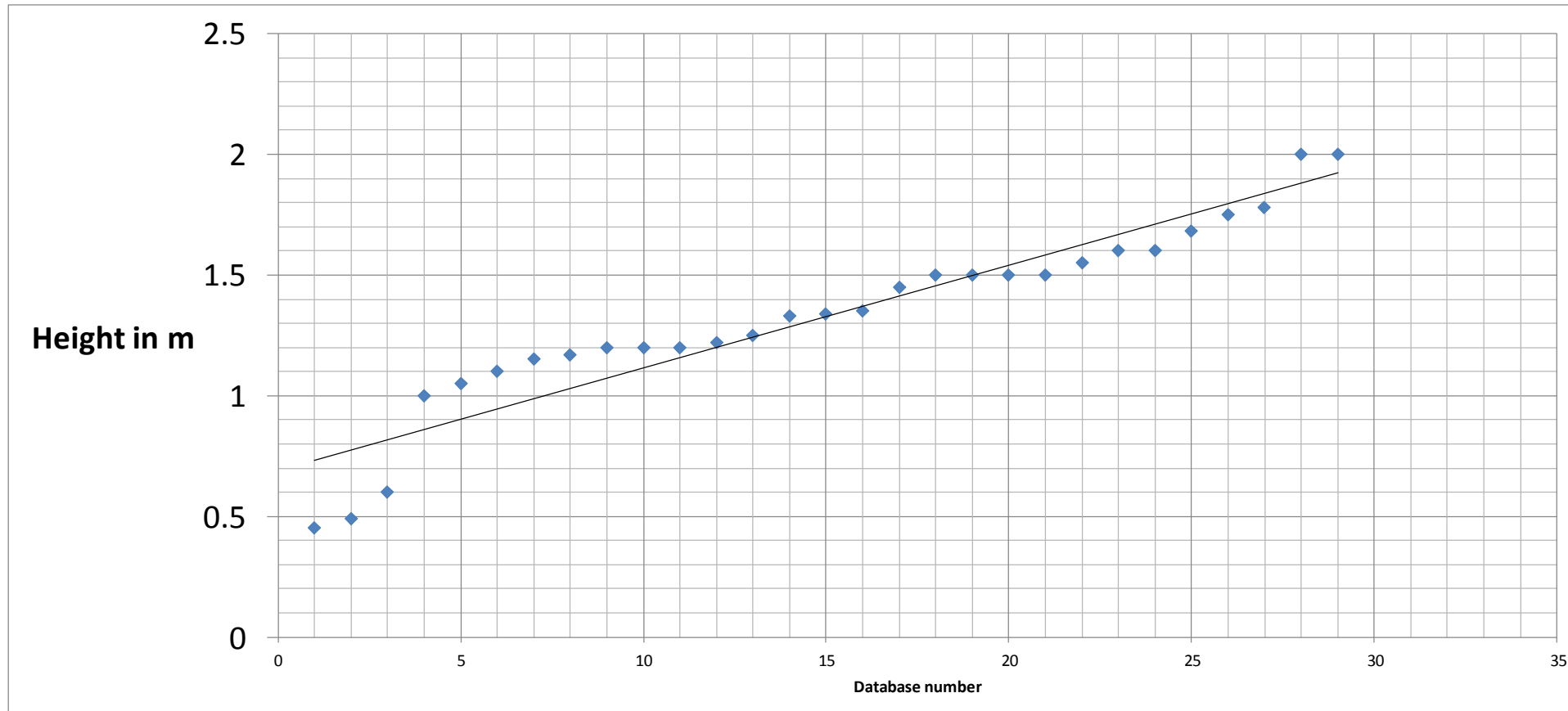


Height and the Invisible Pompeian Child

- Age 6 – 106 cm tall
- Age 7 – 111 cm tall
- Age 8 – 117 cm tall
- Age 9 – 121 cm tall
- Age 10 – 126 cm tall
- Age 11 – 130 cm tall
- Age 12 – 134 cm tall
- Age 13 – 139 cm tall
- Age 14 – 145 cm tall

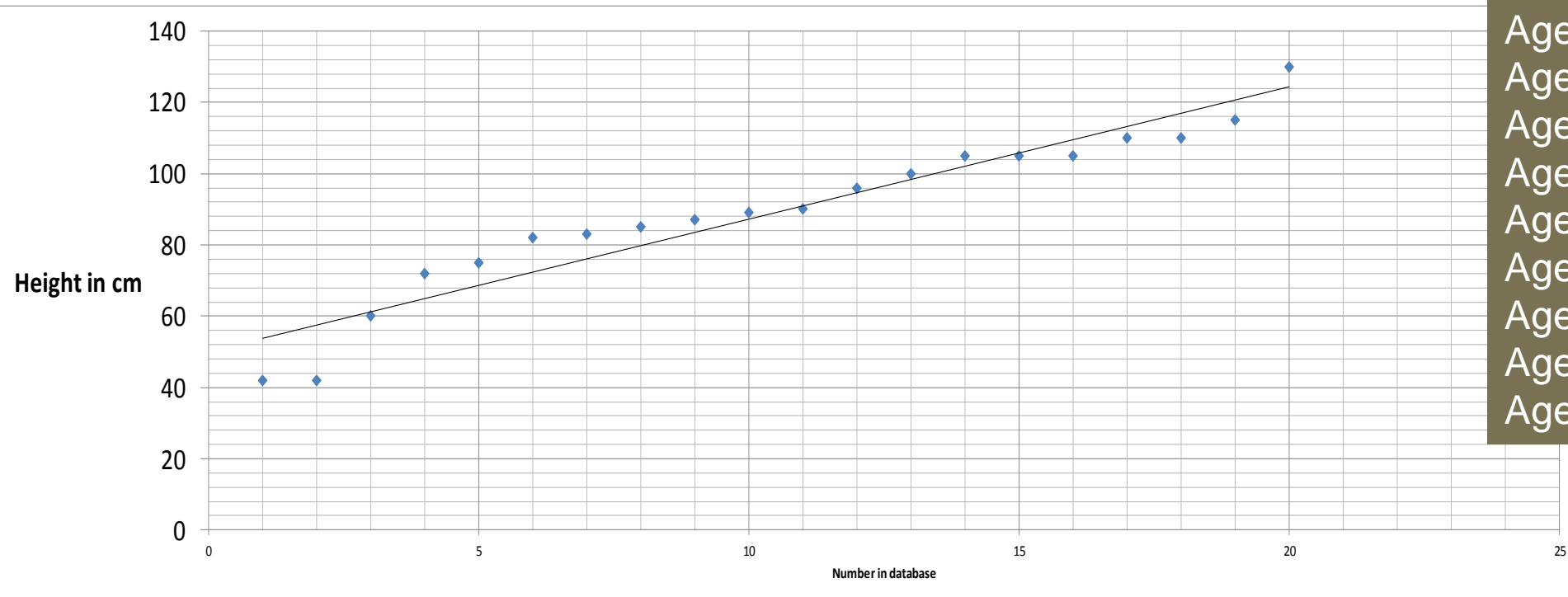


Household Lararia



Age 6 – 106 cm tall
Age 7 – 111 cm tall
Age 8 – 117 cm tall
Age 9 – 121 cm tall
Age 10 – 126 cm tall
Age 11 – 130 cm tall
Age 12 – 134 cm tall
Age 13 – 139 cm tall
Age 14 – 145 cm tall

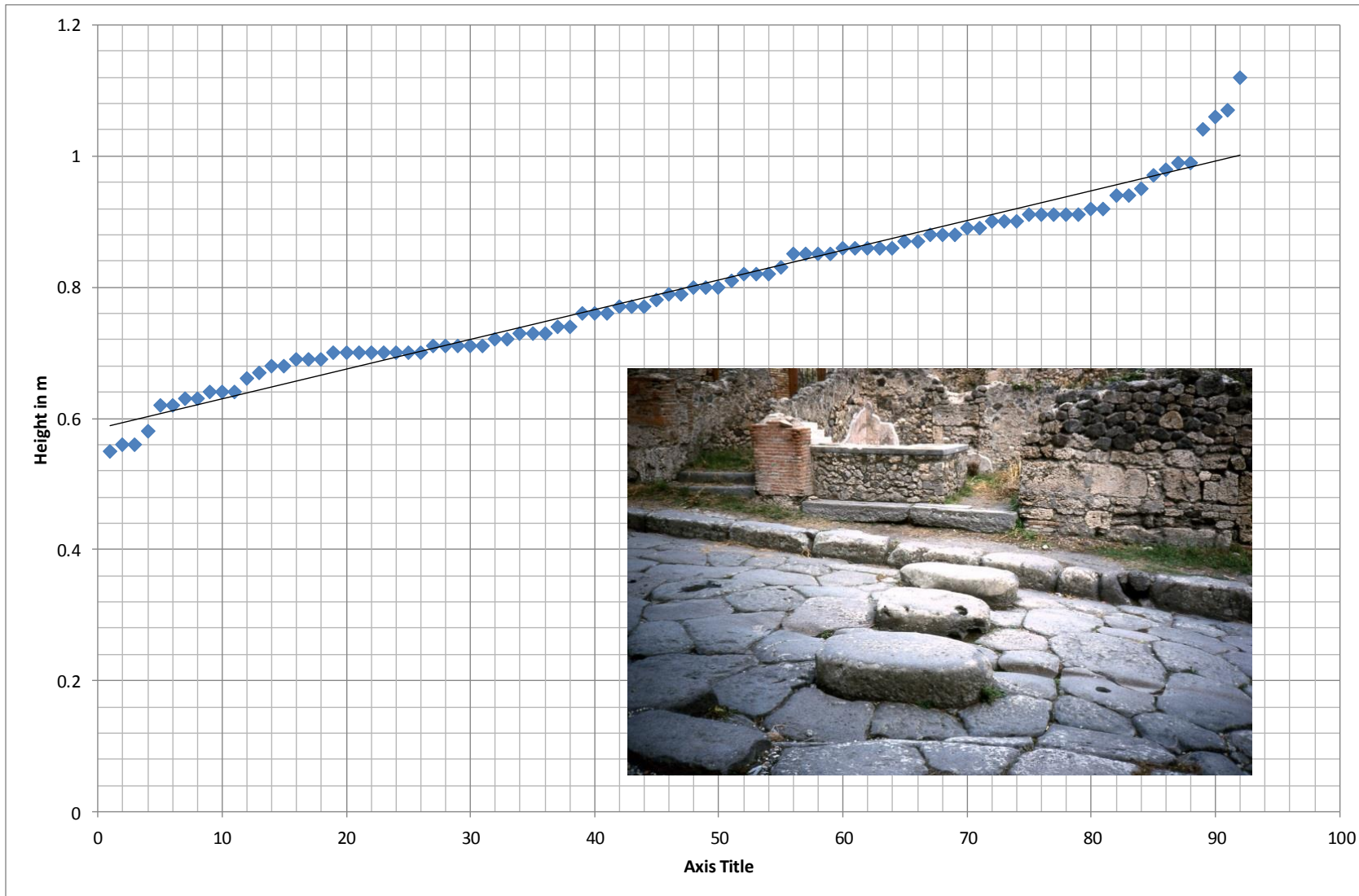
Crossroad Altars



Age 6 – 106 cm tall
Age 7 – 111 cm tall
Age 8 – 117 cm tall
Age 9 – 121 cm tall
Age 10 – 126 cm tall
Age 11 – 130 cm tall
Age 12 – 134 cm tall
Age 13 – 139 cm tall
Age 14 – 145 cm tall



Bar Counters



Age 6 – 106 cm tall
Age 7 – 111 cm tall
Age 8 – 117 cm tall
Age 9 – 121 cm tall
Age 10 – 126 cm tall
Age 11 – 130 cm tall
Age 12 – 134 cm tall
Age 13 – 139 cm tall
Age 14 – 145 cm tall

Cisterns and Safety



Age 6 – 106 cm tall
Age 7 – 111 cm tall
Age 8 – 117 cm tall
Age 9 – 121 cm tall
Age 10 – 126 cm tall
Age 11 – 130 cm tall
Age 12 – 134 cm tall
Age 13 – 139 cm tall
Age 14 – 145 cm tall

Water and Streets



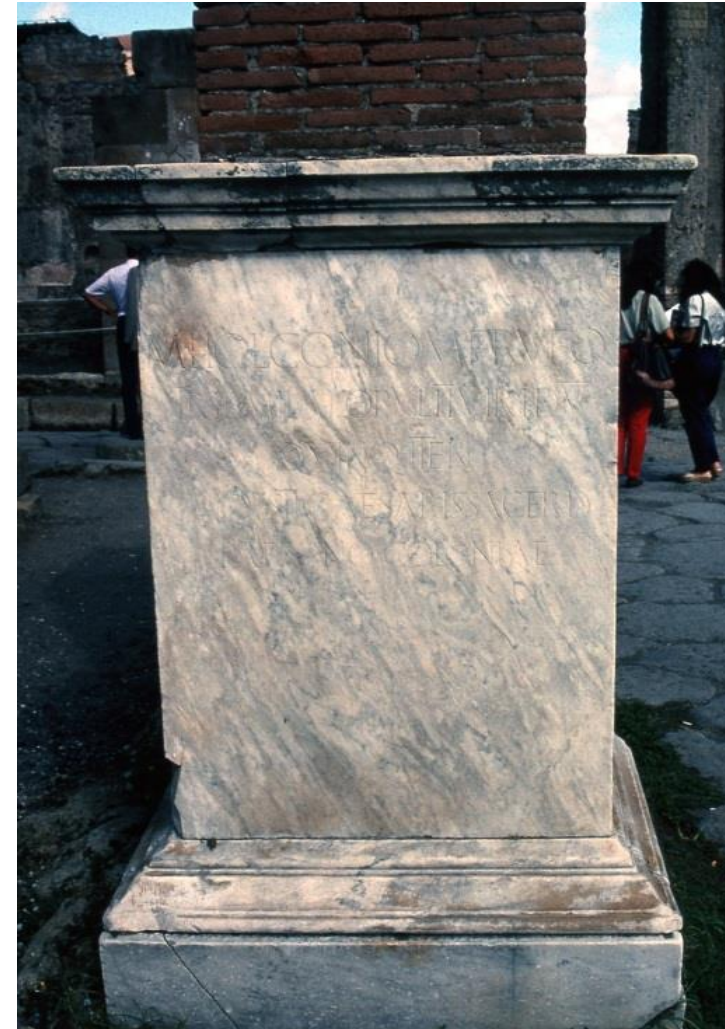
Height below



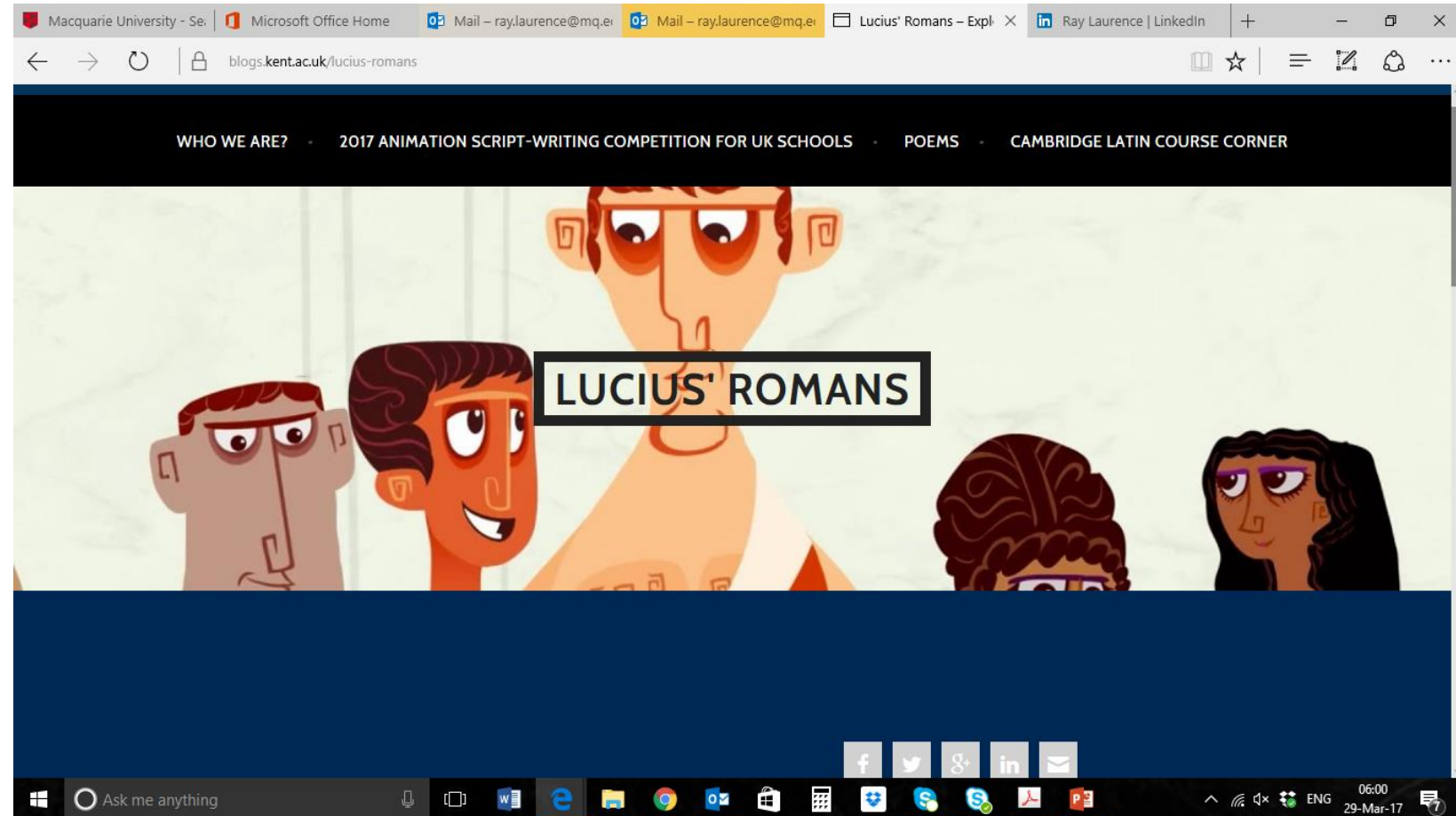
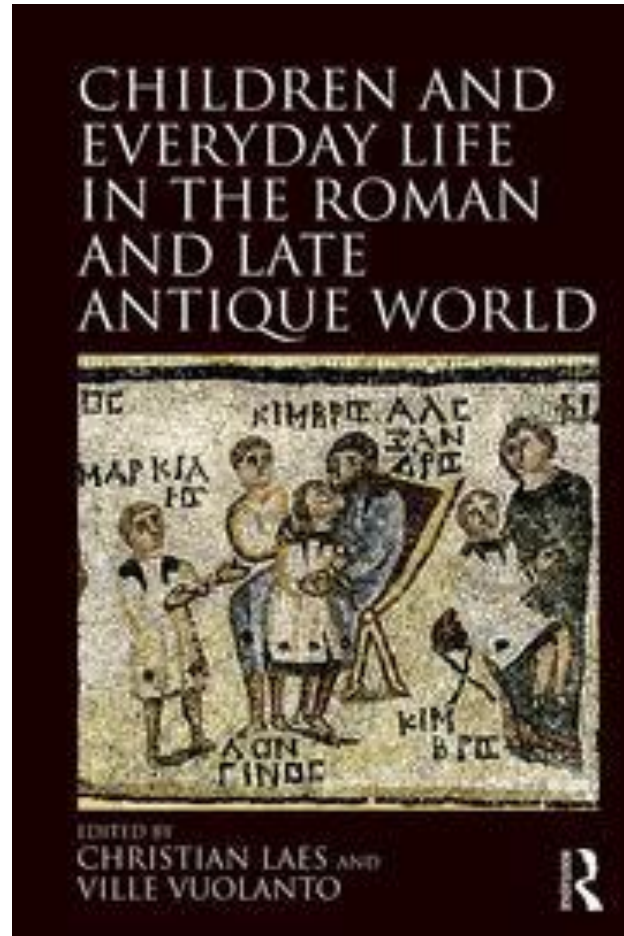
Reading and Statue Bases



Age 6 – 106 cm tall
Age 7 – 111 cm tall
Age 8 – 117 cm tall
Age 9 – 121 cm tall
Age 10 – 126 cm tall
Age 11 – 130 cm tall
Age 12 – 134 cm tall
Age 13 – 139 cm tall
Age 14 – 145 cm tall



To read more about this







<http://youtu.be/juWYhMoDTN0>