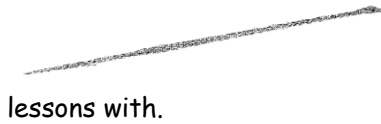


# Roman School

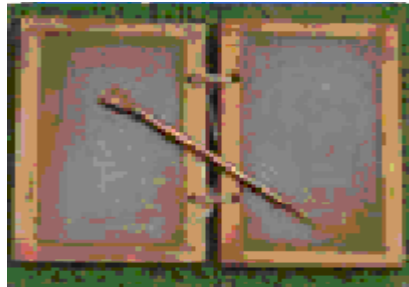
In Roman times most children did not go to school. School was not free so parents had to pay for their children to be educated. So, only rich children went to school. Poor children learnt a trade from their fathers as they could not afford their education. Boys would learn the jobs that their fathers did like being a baker or a metalworker. Girls were taught household skills like weaving, spinning, sewing and cooking from their mothers.

Most of the schools were built in towns and there were not that many of them. So many rich families employed a well educated slave to teach their children.

Roman children began school when they were 6 and stayed till they were 12. Their school day began at dawn and finish in the early afternoon. Here they would learn to read and write Latin and do maths with pebbles. They did not have exercise books like we have they wrote on wax tablet using a *stylus* which is a pointy stick made of metal. It was pointy on one end for writing and flat on the other so they could just flatten out any mistakes they made on the wax.



This is a Roman stylus that Roman school children would use like a pen to do their



on. This is a Roman wax tablet that Roman school children would write their lessons

They would read scrolls like today's children read books.



This is a scroll like they would have had in Roman schools

They would also learn to write numbers and do sums. Roman numbers are very different to today's. Here they are below they are called *Roman numerals*.

1 = I	8 = VIII	60 = LX
2 = II	9 = IX	70 = LXX
3 = III	10 = X	80 = LXXX
4 = IV	20 = XX	90 = XC
5 = V	30 = XXX	100 = C
6 = VI	40 = XL	500 = D
7 = VII	50 = L	1000 = M