

Builds on Knowledge and Skills

You have learnt about many civilisations throughout history during your time at Lutley. During this topic, you will study the development of achievements and legacies throughout British history and compare those with some ancient civilisations. We will begin by exploring some of our own personal achievements and then some of the things in modern life that we consider to be big achievements, such as the construction of magnificent buildings and the invention of technologies that have transformed our lives.

In year 4, you learnt about the magnificent engineering accomplishments of the Romans, including Hadrian's Wall, thermal heating and Roman baths. In year 5, you discovered that the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings gave us our month and day names. In this topic, we will explore further achievements and legacies of civilisations throughout history. We will also explore some of the legacies of ancient societies. We will explore Mayan legacy, in addition to the legacy of the Ancient Greeks who gave us democracy, mathematics, the Olympic games and the marathon.

Books, texts, primary and secondary sources you may use:

- What Happened When in the World by DK History
- History of Britain by Rob Lloyd Jones
- A City Through Time (DK) by Steve Noon
- A Short History of the World (Usborne) by Ruth Brocklehurst
- What the Romans Did for Us by Alison Howes
- New KS2 Discover and Learn: History – Ancient Greek Study Book (CGP KS2 History)
- The History Detective Investigates: Mayan Civilization by Claire Hibbert.
- Anglo-Saxons and Vikings by Hazel Maskell

National Curriculum Links

A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066:

- the legacy of Greek or Roman culture (art, architecture or literature) on later periods in British history, including the present day.

Local History Links:

Birmingham Town Hall takes the form of a free-standing Corinthian temple.



Main Events

In Year 3, you learnt about the Ancient Greeks

776 BCE: First Olympic Games.

480 BCE: Athenians defeated the Persian army at the Battle of Salamis.

447–442 BCE: Parthenon built.

431–404 BCE: The Peloponnesian War (Athens defeated by Sparta).

146 BCE: Greeks defeated by the Romans at the Battle of Corinth.



In Year 4, you learnt about the Ancient Egyptians

c.2560 BCE: Great Pyramid at Giza completed.

c.2200 BCE: End of the pyramid era.

1799: Rosetta Stone discovered.

1922: Tomb of Tutankhamun discovered.

1925: Burial mask displayed in Cairo.



In Year 6, you learnt about the Ancient Maya

250 BCE: First systems of Maya writing developed.

600 CE: Caracol became the most important Maya city.

750 CE: Maya civilisation a major power in the region.

900 CE: Several Maya cities were suddenly abandoned.

1520 CE: Spanish conquistadors contacted Maya settlements.



In Year 4, you learnt about the Romans

410AD: Roman army left Britain.

597AD: St Augustine brought Christianity to Britain from Rome.

878AD: Alfred the Great was victorious at the battle at Edington.

927AD: Kingdom of England created.



In Year 5, you learnt about the Anglo-Saxons

410: Roman army left Britain

597: St Augustine brought Christianity to Britain from Rome

878: Alfred the Great was victorious at the battle at Edington

927: Kingdom of England created

1939: Important discovery made at Sutton Hoo

In Year 5, you learnt about the Vikings

954: Last Viking king of Jorvik (York) killed in battle

1066: Harold Hardrada, King of Norway defeated by King Harold at the Battle of Stamford Bridge

1066: King Harold defeated by William at the Battle of Hastings



Questions we'll ask you throughout the unit to check your knowledge and understanding.

Whose legacy is more significant to us today? The Ancient Greeks or Egyptians? Explain

Discuss the similarities and differences between the Roman and Anglo-Saxon achievements.

Evaluate the impact of Greek culture on later periods of history, including the present day.

The Ancient Maya were an advanced civilisation for their time. Construct a response to justify this argument.

Achievements

Ancient Greece

3000 – 146 BCE



Culture and pastimes



Society



Alexander the Great founded over 70 cities and created an empire that stretched across three continents, covering 2 million square miles.

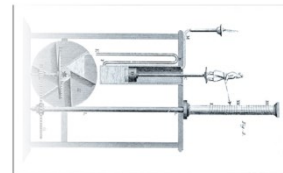
The Olympic games began over 2700 years ago in Olympia, in south west Greece.

The Greeks were great thinkers, warriors, writers, actors, athletes, architects and politicians. They sailed the sea to trade and find new lands. The Greeks introduced demokratia or 'rule by the people'. The Athenians invented one of the earliest examples of democracy in history.

Vocabulary we learnt:

- ancient
- architecture
- artefact
- culture
- democracy
- modern
- society
- temple

Legacy



The Greeks also invented the following:

- The first alarm clock, which used water (see diagram above).
- Central heating.
- Cranes to lift heavy objects.
- Watermills, powered by water to grind

The Ancient Greeks were one of the most influential civilisations in history. Their legacy can be seen everywhere today. The English language has many words that come from Ancient Greek and our political system was first seen in Athens.

The Greeks were fascinated by numbers and how they applied to the real world. Pythagoras was a famous Ancient Greek mathematician. He helped people to better understand circles, lines, angles and triangles.

Ancient Egypt

c. 3100 – 30 BCE



Technology



Society

For 3000 years, Ancient Egypt was home to some of the most influential inventions and discoveries in history. The Egyptians developed systems for writing (including hieroglyphics) and mathematics; they used paper (papyrus) and wrote texts on religion, astronomy and medicine. The Egyptians built magnificent buildings, temples and tombs, decorating them with pictures paintings and carvings.

Vocabulary we learnt:

- archaeologist
- embalmed
- eternity
- immortality
- pharaoh
- preserve
- rituals
- sarcophagus
- tomb

The Egyptians needed a good understanding of mathematics to build the pyramids. They used a decimal system. They just had numbers for factors of 10 such as 1, 10, 100 etc.

Male and female Egyptians wore makeup. They made a dark eye makeup called kohl from soot and other minerals. The makeup was a fashion statement, but it also protected their skin from the hot desert sun.



The Rosetta stone, found in 1799, has helped historians to decipher hieroglyphics and to understand Ancient Egyptian diaries and accounts.

They had a wide variety of medicines and cures, e.g. human brains to cure eye infections.

One of the most important inventions of the Ancient Egyptians was writing: they wrote in hieroglyphics. Writing allowed the Egyptians to keep accurate records and maintain control of their large empire.

The Egyptians also invented the toothbrush and toothpaste, as they had lots of problems with their teeth because much of their food had grit in it.

Romans

CE 43 - 410



Beliefs



Society



Conflict

At its most powerful, the Roman Empire spread across Europe, parts of North Africa and the Middle East. Its army was one of the most organised and skilful ever created. Romans took their technology, art and beliefs with them and had a significant effect on the culture and society of every land they conquered.

The Romans built one of the most famous set of defences in the world made up of 15 forts: Hadrian's wall. Many of these forts can still be seen today.



Vocabulary we learnt:

- civil war
- dictator
- emperor
- empire
- fort
- military
- taxes
- territory
- treaty

The Romans left their mark all over the country. They gave us new towns, plants, animals, a new religion, the census, a calendar, laws and the legal system, in addition to ways of reading and counting. Even the word Britain comes from the Romans.



Britain had no proper roads before the Romans. They were just muddy tracks. Therefore, the Romans built new roads all across the landscape. Some Roman roads have been converted into motorways and main roads that we still use today.

In Year 3, you learnt about the Ancient Greeks. The Romans were significantly influenced by them, consequently they were usually comfortable with people holding other beliefs. However, they felt it was important that people acknowledged Roman beliefs too. When Christians refused to worship Roman gods, they were persecuted. The Romans later adopted Christianity and this spread throughout the Empire as the official religion.

Ancient Maya

2000 BCE – C 1500



Society



Technology

The Maya developed a writing system that was able to represent their spoken language in symbolic form. Only the most educated would have been able to use this writing system, so scribes became important and respected people.

The Maya were skilful mathematicians and astronomers and used their knowledge to build a calendar system. It told the Maya when to plant crops, when to harvest and even when to make a sacrifice to the gods.

Vocabulary we learnt:

- abandoned
- ceremony
- codices
- sacrifice
- uninhabitable



The Maya were an advanced civilisation for their time and are remembered for amazing creations: spectacular buildings and beautiful objects made from jade. They also invented ground-breaking ideas, which have helped shape the way we live our lives today. It is thought they invented the concept of 'zero' and calendars.

People often think that the Mayas only existed in the past. However, today, there are over seven million Maya people, most of whom live in Central America and southern Mexico.



The symbols have been found in stone carvings, temples and palaces but there is also evidence that the Maya used a form of paper made from tree bark to create folded codices.

Anglo-Saxons

CE 449 - 790



Society



Conflict



Power

The Anglo-Saxons invaded Britain after the Roman army left. The land they conquered was split into small kingdoms and the new invaders brought their own building methods religious beliefs and language.

In 878, Alfred the Great, the King of Wessex won a famous battle at Edington. The victory was the first fightback against the Vikings.



Vocabulary we learnt:

- allegiance
- Angles
- Christians
- conflict
- conquered
- kingdom
- mythology
- pagan
- tribe

These four Anglo-Saxon gods gave their names to the days of the week that we still use today:

- **Tiw the God of War** became **Tuesday**.
- **Woden the King of the Gods** became **Wednesday**.
- **Thunor the God of Thunder** became **Thursday**.
- **Frigg the Goddess of Love** became

Anglo-Saxon rule came to end with the Norman Conquest of 1066, but the Saxons left their legacy on England: the language, culture and politics of the land. Many of the shires established then are still used today, in addition to villages and towns: -borough, -ton, -bury.



The Anglo-Saxons provided us with inspiration for modern literature e.g. Lord of the Rings.

Vikings

CE 790 - 1066



Society



Conflict



Technology

The Vikings were excellent sailors, explorers and warriors. They colonised parts of Europe between 790 and 1100 CE and were involved in an arduous battle with the Anglo-Saxons for the control of Britain.



Unlike the Romans, who travelled on the roads, The Vikings typically travelled on longboats and developed excellent shipbuilding methods.

Vocabulary we learnt:

- colonise
- conquest
- danegeld
- invade
- longboat
- monastery
- navigation
- reputation
- seaborne

Shakespeare's play *Hamlet* is based upon a collection of Viking tales.



The following place names are from the Viking era and are still used today: -by, -thorpe, -ey.

The three Scandinavian kingdoms of Denmark, Sweden and Norway all emerged because of the Viking Age.



The comb is another invention often attributed to the Vikings. Whilst it had been around long before the Vikings, their version of the bristled comb would provide the model of the ones we see today. They loved their combs so much, many have been found at Viking sites including graves.