



Preston Primary School Knowledge Organiser

Communication

Critical-Thinking

Collaboration

Creativity

Topic: History

Term: Spring 1

Year: Unit 4

Duration: 4 weeks

Question: What influence does the Ancient Greek Empire have on Western society?'

The Powerful Knowledge we will take away from this Learning Enquiry (what will be learning):

- Greek **civilisation** lasted from 1200BC to 146BC.
- The Ancient Greek **empire** was formed by Alexander the Great in 336BC.
- The Battle of Thermopylae was in 480BC, where the Persians invaded Greece. Greece only had a small Spartan army compared to the Persian army, which resulted in the Persian army claiming victory.
- I can identify the effects and influence of Greek achievements on the Western world, such as:
 - Entertainment (through theatres)
 - **Democracy** and a fair trial (in Athens)
 - Mathematics (Archimedes, Pythagoras & Euclid)
 - Sports (Olympics and Marathons)
- I can compare Ancient Greece to other ancient **civilisations** that I have previously learned about and understand similarities and differences.
- I can use sources to understand **bias** opinions and interpretations.
- I can use sources of evidence to debate about the greatest impact of the Ancient Greeks on today.

Our Key Vocabulary:

Word/ phrase	Meaning
Legacy	Things that exist after someone dies or after a civilisation or event ends.
Civilisation	A human society with well-developed rules and government.
City States	Small areas that ancient Greece was divided into, each with their own governments, laws and army.
Empire	A group of countries of states that are ruled by one ruler or country.
Era	A period of time.
Chronology	Chronology is the study of time. It includes putting events in the correct order in which they happened.
Bias	an opinion that does not let one be fair (prejudice)
Democracy	A system where citizens of a country or state are involved with the way it is run.
Primary Source	Information and objects that come from the time being studied.
Secondary Source	Interpretations of information and objects which are produced after the time being studied.
Myth	A story from ancient times about something that happened long ago, that some people believed to be true.

What I already know: Previously, Year 5s have learned about the The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the kingdom of England, and also looked at whether the Vikings had an empire or not. Year 5s have also learned about The Roman **Empire** - how it was built, and similarities and difference between Viking/Romans.

Year 6s have previously learned about the British **Empire** and countries that fought for Britain in WW1. Year 6s have also explored the Ancient Egyptian **Empire** (which was around 3100 BCE) and their achievements.



Democracy:

Ancient Athens is where **democracy** began in around 508 BC. Listening to the opinions of other people and debating issues was an important part of this system. After debating issues, the ancient Athenians would vote. At that time, the only people allowed to take part in **democracy** were adult males who were citizens of Athens. The **legacy** of **democracy** still exists today in many parts of the world.

The Olympics:

The Olympics were first held in ancient Greece in 776 BC. This is one of the **legacies** of ancient Greece. Events included boxing, wrestling, running, and chariot racing. Women were not allowed to compete in the Olympics. This was because ancient Greek women were not treated as equals to men and had fewer freedoms. The idea for the marathon also originates from this time.

What was life like in Ancient Greece?

- Ancient Greece had a warm, dry climate.
- Most people lived by farming, fishing, and trade. Others were soldiers, scientists, and artists.
- Cities had beautiful temples with stone columns, statues, and open-air theatres where people sat to watch plays.
- Most people lived in villages or in the countryside.
- Ancient Greek homes were built around a courtyard or garden.
- At night, Greeks slept on beds stuffed with wool, feathers, or dry grass.
- Many people walked barefoot. Greek men and women wore tunics.

