

## Knowledge about Ancient Greece

- ❑ The term 'Ancient Greece' refers to a period of time from 2000BC to 146BC. It existed at the same time as the Iron Age here. It was split up into three time periods: the Archaic period, the Classical period and the Hellenistic period.
- ❑ Ancient Greece was a small mountainous area made up of hundreds of islands in the Mediterranean Sea.
- ❑ Religion was very important in Ancient Greece. They worshipped lots of gods and goddesses that were in charge of different parts of their lives, such as a god of the sea and a goddess of wisdom. They built temples in their honour. This kind of religious is called **polytheistic**.
- ❑ Ancient Greece was split into different **city-states** including Athens and Sparta. They warred with each other often and were very different for example, in Sparta there was a significant emphasis on warfare.
- ❑ Athens is known as the birthplace of **democracy**. They had a democratic government – people who lived there made decisions by voting.
- ❑ The Ancient Greeks used **myths and fables** (different types of stories) to learn about their world and how they ought to behave in it.
- ❑ The Ancient Greeks often depicted important scenes on **terracotta** vases called **Etruscan vases**. These included scenes from myths and fables but also true events like the Olympic Games.
- ❑ The city-states would often unite against a common enemy, the Persian Empire. Athens famously faced the Persians at the Battle of Marathon where they defeated them against incredible odds.
- ❑ In the modern Olympics, the 26 mile **marathon** race is named for the journey Athenian runner Pheidippides made to tell Athens of their victory at the Battle of Marathon. He died shortly after the sharing the news.
- ❑ The Olympic Games were first recorded in 776BC and progressed from a single race to honour Zeus to an 8-event programme conducted every four years.
- ❑ The Ancient Olympic Games took place in a valley near Olympia in Greece. It was then revived into the **modern** Olympic Games in 1896.
- ❑ Alexander III of Macedon, also known as Alexander the Great, was a king of the Ancient Greek kingdom of Macedonia. He ascended to the throne in 336 BC at the age of 20 and was known for conducting several military campaigns during his rule.
- ❑ Greece fell to the Romans in 146BC.

## Links

Y3 – Settlement and Trade  
Y3 - Romans  
Y5 – Ancient Civilisations

## Memorable Moments

**Greek Day**  
Children will experience a variety of memorable learning activities where they will sample Greek recipes and take part in a full Ancient Olympics.

## Reading: Greek Myths

# Y6 Ancient Greece



## Subject-Specific Vocabulary

Word	Definition
<b>Tier 1</b>	
❑ Ancient	A time period belonging to the distant past – especially before the collapse of the Western Roman Empire in AD 476.
❑ Civilization	A society that has a high level of culture and social organisation.
❑ Democracy	The right to form a government where power is invested in the people as a whole and representatives have been elected.
❑ Empire	A group of nations or peoples ruled over by an emperor, empress, or other powerful sovereign.
❑ Modern	A time period belonging to the present period in history.
<b>Tier 2</b>	
❑ City States	An area with its own government, legislation (rules) and control over its affairs.
❑ Marathon	A marathon is a long distance race with a distance of approximately 26 miles.. It gains its name from the legend of Pheidippides and the Battle of Marathon.
❑ Myth	A traditional story about heroes or supernatural beings, used to explain human behaviour and natural phenomena.
❑ Fable	A short fictional story that has a moral or teaches a lesson.
❑ Terracotta	An unglazed reddish-brown hard-baked clay.
❑ BC	Used after dates e.g. 146BC. BC is Before Christ so is before the year 0 when Christians believe Jesus was born.
❑ AD	Used for dates e.g. 2020AD. AD stands for Anno Domini which means 'the year of our lord.'
<b>Tier 3</b>	
❑ Etruscan	A member of an ancient people who lived in Etruria.
❑ Polytheistic	Belief in worship of more than one god.

