West Haddon Endowed Church of England School

Where Happiness Promotes Success

Knowledge Organiser | **Topic – Years 3 & 4** | **Autumn** | **Ancient Greece**

What I should know already:

- Greece is a country in the continent of Europe.
- The Romans invaded Britain.

What I should know by the end of the unit:

- The six periods of time in ancient Greece 2000 BC to 146 BC were called the Minoan age, Mycenaean age, Dark age, Archaic period, Classical period and Hellenistic period.
- The Romans invaded ancient Greece before they invaded Britain.
- A city-state, or *polis*, was the community structure of ancient Greece. There grew to be over 1,000 city-states in ancient Greece.
- Greek city-states likely developed because of the physical geography of the Mediterranean region.
- The Greeks are often credited with pioneering a democratic government that went on to influence governments today.
- Ancient Greece was a hub of trade, philosophy, athletics, politics, and architecture. Understanding how the Ancient Greeks lived gives us insights into how Greek ideas continue to influence us today.
- Ancient Greek scholars such as Plato, Aristotle, Hippocrates and Pythagoras gave theories in science, maths and philosophy that are studied today.
- A primary source is an original artefact or document from the time. A secondary source is something that is created later by someone that didn't experience the time or event first-hand.
- The population of modern Greece is around 11 million people. Athens has a population of around 655,000 people. The largest of the Greek islands is Crete with 623,000 people.
- Greece is one of the most mountainous countries in Europe.
- There are four seas surrounding modern Greece, the largest is the Mediterranean Sea.

Vocabulary and People

archaeologist	A person who studies history through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artefacts and other physical remains.
architecture	The style in which a building is designed and constructed.
Archaic period	The fourth period in the ancient Greece timeline.
Athens	One of ancients Greece's most powerful polis.
chronology	The arrangement of events or dates in time order.
civilisation	The way of life of a particular area.
Classical period	The fifth period in the ancient Greece timeline.
culture	The ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society.
Dark age	The third period in the ancient Greece timeline.
democracy	A system of government by the whole population, typically through elected representatives.
Hellenistic period	The sixth period in the ancient Greece timeline.
Minoan age	The first period in the ancient Greece timeline.
monarchy	A form of government with a king or queen at the head.
Mycenaean age	The second period in the ancient Greece timeline.
mythology	The study of myths.
oligarchy	A small group of people having control of a country.
philosophy	The study of the theoretical basis of knowledge.
polis	An ancient Greek city state.
polytheistic	The belief in or worship of more than one god.
scholar	A person who studies a particular subject area.
Sparta	One of ancients Greece's most powerful polis. People from there were called Spartans.
trade	The activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods or services.

Historical Skills and Enquiry

- Chronologically order the 6 key periods of the ancient Greek civilisation on a time line from 2000 BC to 146 BC.
- Make connections between Ancient Greece, Britain and The Romans.
- Explore and compare the different types of government in ancient Greece: monarchy, democracy, oligarchy and link with the British government.
- Compare and contrast the two ancient city-states of Athens and Sparta.
- Explore religion in ancient Greece and the impact it had on daily life.
- Consider how the ancient Greek scholars and philosophers have influenced our lives today.
- Study Greek life and achievements understanding their influence on the western world today.
- Identify key features and events of time studied.
- Use primary and secondary sources to infer about daily life in ancient Greece and evaluate the usefulness of these different sources.
- Discuss and evaluate how modern-day life has been influenced by the ancient Greeks.

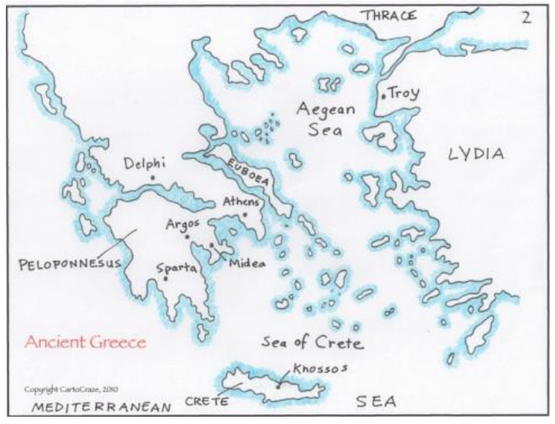
Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

- Use maps to find out about the physical geography of Greece.
- Discuss the impact of the geography of ancient Greece on the ancient Greek civilisation.
- Ask and answer questions about the population and culture of Greece today.

Ancient Greek Society

- Ancient Greece had no central government. People lived in city-states called polis. Each city-state was a powerful city which ruled the area surrounding it.
- The three types of government in ancient Greece were monarchy (ruled by a king), oligarchy (ruled by a small number of people) and democracy (ruled by many people).
- Athens and Sparta were two of the most powerful city-states in ancient Greece.
- Athens had a **democratic** government – the people who lived there made decisions by voting, like we do in Britain. In Sparta, all that was important was being able to defend Sparta in battle. They had an **oligarchy** government.
- In Athens, they placed value on education, art and music. Athens was near to the sea and could use their ships to go and trade.
- The Spartans placed little value on education, art or music because they spent their time training to become soldiers. Sparta didn't have a coast so they couldn't go to sea to trade.
- Religion was very important in ancient Greece. They were **polytheists** - they believed in different gods and goddesses. Temples were built in their honour and they feature in the stories of Greek **mythology**.
- Mount Olympus, the highest mountain in Greece, was believed to be the home of the twelve most important gods and goddesses - the Olympians.
- A scholar is a highly educated person, who specialises in a subject. A philosopher is someone who thinks deeply and seriously about life. The ancient Greeks were forward-thinking people and they encouraged innovation and development.
- The ancient Greeks gave us the alphabet, prefixes, suffixes, myths, democracy, the Olympics, architecture and art that we still use today,
- The first Olympic games were held in 776 BC in Olympia.

Ancient Greece



Timeline

