Ancient Greece | Class 4 | Summer '21

Vocabulary

empire	A group of countries that are run by the government of another country
democracy	A system where people make important decisions by voting.
column	A tall cylinder of stone, which often forms part of a building.
council	A group of people who are chosen to be in charge of a town or city.
myth	A well-known story, which was made up in the past to explain natural events.
assembly	A large group of people who meet to make decisions for a particular region or country.
citizen	Someone who lives in a particular town or city.
civilisation	How a group of humans organise their lives.
representative	A person chosen to act or speak for others.
polytheism	The belief in more than one god.
conflict	A disagreement about something important.
truce	An agreement to stop fighting or arguing.

THE ALPHABET

The word alphabet comes from the first two Greek letters 'alpha' and 'beta'. The first five letters of the Greek alphabet were - Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta, Epsilon.

Olympic Games – key facts

The Olympic games began over 2,700 years ago in Olympia, Greece.

The Games were part of a religious festival, held in honour of Zeus, king of the gods and took place every four years at Olympia.

They included the following events - running, discus, javelin, long jump, wrestling, boxing, chariot racing and the pentathlon.

People from all over the Greek world came to watch and take part.

The Greek Olympics inspired the modern Olympic Games (which began in 1896).

The Parthenon



A important Greek temple built in Athens in honour of the Goddess Athena. A temple is an important religious building

Myths

The Greeks had numerous gods and many stories and myths that surrounded them. Greek mythology consists of all the stories and tales about the Greek gods, goddesses, and heroes. Although the ancient Greek storytellers were quite inventive, and each told a myth in their own way, each god's personality and powers remained the same from story to story.

Timeline

3000 BC	Greek civilisation begins.
776 BC	First Olympic Games are held
508 BC	Democracy is introduced in Athens.
336 BC	Alexander the Great becomes king.
146 BC	Invasion of Romans
479 AD	Athens and Sparta defeat the Persians.

BC stands for Before Christ.
AD stands for 'Anno Domini', which means 'the year of our Lord' in Latin.

Key Greek Gods and Goddesses

Zeus	God of the Sky and King of Olympus. (Brother to Hades and Poseidon)
Hades	God of the Underworld. (Brother to Zeus and Poseidon)
Poseidon	God of the Sea. (Brother to Zeus and Hades)
Hera	Goddess of marriage and Queen of Olympus.
Aphrodite	Goddess of love and beauty and protector of sailors
Athena	Goddess of wisdom and Athens was named after her. She liked Owls.
Apollo	God of light and music
Hermes	Messenger to the Gods
Ares	God of war.