



Topic: The Romans

Year: 4

Term: Term 1

Background Information

- Britain is separated by France by the Channel
- Britain is 4412 miles from Rome.
- Rome is in modern day Italy.
- The Romans had a huge empire.
- Roman soldiers were elite warriors.
- Julius Caesar was a famous Roman.
- The Romans used coins
- Gladiators fought in huge stadiums.

Interesting Facts

- Roman soldiers signed up for 25 years and were not allowed to marry.
- Julius Caesar twice unsuccessfully invaded Britain in 55 & 54 BC.
- In 55 BC Julius Caesar invaded with 2 Legions (each legion consisted of 5000 men)
- In 55 BC he was unable to land his cavalry because of bad weather and many of his ships were wrecked. Despite establishing a beachhead he had to withdraw after repeated attacks on his army by the Celtic tribes.
- In 54 BC he brought 5 legions (25,000) of men and ensured his cavalry was with him.
- He fought many battles and effectively would have won but for unrest back in Gaul. So he negotiated a peace and left.
- Some Celtic tribes sided with the Romans.
- Julius Caesar introduced the Julian calendar which included leap years. It also included the month of July, which was named after him after his death
- Nearly 100 years later In AD 43 Emperor Claudius invaded with 5 Legions and a further 25,000 auxiliaries (Non-Roma soldiers).
- It took him nearly 30 years to conquer England and Wales completely.
- He is believed to have brought war elephants with him to terrify the enemy.
- Celtic warriors could be male or female.
- Boudica , Queen of the Iceni led a revolt against the Romans in AD 60.
- The Iceni tribe were based in East Anglia. Many of us may be descended from Iceni warriors.
- Both Caesar and Claudius were murdered. Caesar was stabbed 23 times by people he thought of as friends. Claudius was killed by his wife.
- Many of the cities of Britain were built by the Romans.
- London was originally named Londinium.
- The Roman soldiers built roads, many of which are the foundation of modern roads today.
- The Roman Emperor Hadrian ordered a wall built across the North of England to keep out the ferocious Scots.

Key Vocabulary

Gladius	Short Roman Sword
Pilum	Javelin carried by the Roman soldiers.
Scutum	Roman Shield
Galea	Roman soldier's helmet
Legion	A large military unit of the Roman army usually around 5000 men
Emperor	Leader of an empire.
Chieftain	Leader of a people or clan.
Rome	A city (capital of modern Italy) which spawned an Empire which stretched across Europe and Northern Africa.
Mosaic	A picture or pattern produced by arranging together small pieces of stone, tile, glass, etc.
Celts	Ancient people who spread across most of Europe.
Chariot	A two-wheeled vehicle drawn by horses, used in ancient racing and warfare

Diagrams / Timelines / Photos



Know how to / Activity

- Locate Rome on a map.
- Find British cities that were built by the Romans and find out their original Roman names.
- Answer questions such as, 'When did the Romans invade Britain?'
- Make a Mosaic patterns from various materials. For instance use colourful packaging .