



**acropolis**- The central part of an Ancient Greek city, usually on a hill. The most famous acropolis was in Athens.

**ancestor**- a family member from long ago who someone is descended from.

**archaeologist**- A person who studies history by digging up objects and using them to find out more about the past.

**chariot**- A vehicle pulled by horses used in battle and for racing.

**city-state**- A city and the area of land around it that together made up an independent state.

**courtyard**- The outside area at the centre of most Greek houses.

**democracy**- A system of government where ordinary people get a say in how things are run. In Ancient Greece, only men were allowed to vote.

**hoplite**- a heavily armed foot soldier of Ancient Greece.

**Parthenon**- A temple on the Athenian acropolis dedicated to the goddess Athena.

## Ancient Greece



In this unit, you will learn:

- Characteristic features of the period, including the ideas, beliefs, attitudes and experiences of men, women and children in the past.
- Reasons for and results of historical events, situations and changes in the period.
- To recognise that the past is represented and interpreted in different ways.



# ANCIENT GREEKS



Greece  
(Europe)

776BC	750BC	570BC	508BC	450BC	432BC	336BC	146BC
The first <b>Olympic Games</b> takes place	Early Greek <b>culture</b> thrives <b>Homer</b> writes The Iliad and The Odyssey.	<b>Pythagoras</b> is born He makes major breakthroughs in science and maths	<b>Democracy</b> begins in <b>Athens</b> , giving greater power to the people	<b>Athens</b> becomes a powerful city and controls an empire	The <b>Parthenon</b> , the most famous building in Athens, is completed	<b>Alexander the Great</b> is king and helps the Greek <b>Empire</b> expand further	Rome conquers Greece, making it part of the Roman Empire

## The Olympic Games

- Began in 776 BC in Olympia.
- Believed to be a religious event to **honour** Zeus, the King of the Gods.
- Events included boxing, wrestling, long-distance running and chariot racing.
- Some of the evidence about the games comes from paintings discovered on vases.



## FAMOUS FIGURES

Archimedes (287-212 B.C.)

Mathematician and philosopher who found a way of measuring water by placing an object in it and seeing how far it rose (hydrostatics). He jumped out of the bath and shouted 'Eureka!' meaning 'I found it!'

Alexander the Great (356-332 B.C.)

King of Macedonia who conquered Greece, Persia, Egypt, and the Indus Valley, extending the empire as far away as India.

Hippocrates (460-370 B.C.)

A famous doctor known as the 'father of Western medicine'. Doctors today still take the 'Hippocratic Oath' promising to be good at their job and do their best for patients.

Pericles (494-429 B.C.)

Athenian general who led Athens during the war with Sparta. He made sure that the poor as well as the rich citizens could take part in government and valued art and education.

## Battles and Wars

Battles took place between different **city states** but when an outside enemy attacked, these **city states** would sometimes join forces.

### The Battle of Marathon

- The **Athenians** were being invaded by the **Persians** and needed more soldiers to help them fight.
- Pheidippides was sent to run to Sparta to ask them to join forces with the **Athenians**. He ran 26 miles from Athens to Sparta which took him two days.
- The **Spartans** said they would help but only after they had finished celebrating a festival.
- Pheidippides ran all the way back to Athens to tell them they would have to wait.
- The **Athenian** army couldn't wait and unbelievably, with strong fighting strategies, they were victorious.
- Pheidippides ran all the way back to Athens to tell them of the army's victory but when he arrived after delivering the message, he died.



### The Trojan War

- The Trojan War is a famous story told by the famous Greek writer, Homer.
- The Greeks had a plan to win a battle against the Trojans... they gifted a large wooden horse to the city which the Trojans thought was a sign that the Greeks had given up.
- Hiding inside the horse, was a group of Greek soldiers, who, in the dead of night, climbed out and let the rest of the Greek army into the city to fight.
- Finally, the city of Troy was destroyed.

