## Year 4 - Autumn I - The Ancient Greeks

# Knowledge Mat

Enquiry Question: Can we thank the Ancient Greeks for anything in our lives today?

#### **Topic Vocabulary**

Ancient - Something from a very long time ago.

Civilisation – A human society with well-developed rules and government. Technology and arts are considered important.

City States - Small areas that ancient Greece was divided into. Each had its own governments, laws and army.

Empire - A group of countries or states that is ruled by one ruler or country.

**Legacy** - Something that lives on after someone dies or a civilisation has ended.

Democracy - Democracy is a system where citizens of a country or state are involved in the way it is run.

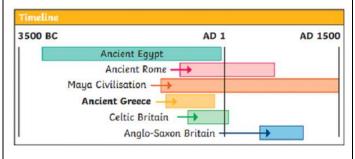
Primary Source - Information and objects that come from the time being studied.

Secondary Source - Information that comes from after the time being studied.



#### **Key Knowledge**

- Ancient Greece lasted from 1200 BC to 146 BC when it became part of the Roman empire.
- Greece borders countries to the North and is surrounded by sea on the rest of its border. It has mountains in the middle.
- Many features of life today have their roots in ancient Greece e.g. democracy and poetry.
- Ancient Greece was divided into different city states.
- The city state of Athens valued democracy, education (for both boys and girls) and arts and culture, such as pottery and plays.
- The city state of Sparta valued military strength, equality for boys and girls and simple living.



- The first official Olympic Games happened in 776 BC and then continued to take place once every four years.
- As well as being the most important sporting event for the Ancient Greeks, the Olympic Games were also a very important religious festival.
- Olympia was associated with Zeus, the king of the gods, and the Olympic Games were held in his honour.
- The Persians attacked the Athenians at the Battle of Marathon. The Athenians sent a man called Pheidippides on a long run to Sparta to ask for help.
- Alexander the Great was a powerful leader who built an empire that covered Greece, Asia and North Africa.

### Links to Prior Learning

In 146 AD, the Romans conquered Greece and it became part of the Roman Empire.

The Romans adopted aspects of Greek culture, including the gods and goddesses.