



Portfields Primary School Medium Term Plan

Year Group – 6

Subject - **History**

Topic – **Ancient Greeks**

Term – **Spring 2**



National Curriculum	Key Questions		Substantive Knowledge	Key Vocabulary	Real-Life Links
2.2.1 Develop chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history. 2.5.1 Address and devise historically valid questions about significance. 2.5.2 Understand how and why different interpretations of the past have been constructed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Why did the Ancient Greek Empire become so important?● How different were the Spartans and the Athenians?● How similar were the London 2012 Olympic Games to those held in Ancient Greece?● What can we learn about the Ancient Greeks from their myths and religion?● Why did the Ancient Greeks fight so many wars?		Explain what an Empire needs to be successful.	Minoan, Mycenaean, Classical, Hellenistic, Roman Greek, terrain, Polis, democracy, agora, trireme, monarchy, oligarchy, citizens, slaves, suffrage, Stadium, Olympic, revival, marathon, Myth, temple, priest Hoplite, phalanx (strong block formation), trireme, interpret	Legacy of London 2012 https://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/explore-park/see-and-do/experience-legacy-london-2012 British Museum https://www.britishmuseum.org/learn/schools/ages-7-11/ancient-greece
	Technical Questions		Explain, through the evidence presented, differences between the Ancient and Modern Olympics.		
	What makes an empire prosper and become successful? <i>Ideas could include powerful army, land, skills (including builders), educated (literate/mathematical), natural resources and trade links.</i>	What links can be made between fictional stories and the Gods of Ancient Greece? <i>The Ancient Greeks had different gods to cover all the different aspects of their lives and they had to keep them happy otherwise disasters would occur as shown in the stories about Medusa, Hades and Zeus.</i>	Explain, how stories from the past can provide anecdotal evidence of ancient society and culture		
	When examining the system of government of Athens, what similarities are there that can be made between the past and the present? <i>Athens is considered the birthplace of democracy – a system of governance that exists today.</i> How can sources of evidence be used to provide reliable and substantive information about the past? <i>Analysing and giving thoughtful consideration to the evidence presented from the past can often tell us about how items are used, or give information about a popular story or event.</i> What comparisons can be made between the religion of the Ancient Greeks and other societies studied? <i>This can be opportunity to consider the religions of the Maya, Romans, Egyptians, Vikings and/or Anglo-Saxons.</i>	What tactics were used in Ancient Greek warfare to ensure successful defence and attack against their enemies? <i>The Greek city-states were often engaged in warfare, either between themselves or against a common enemy like Persia. Hoplites (foot soldiers) were the most important part of the army. Triremes were Greek warships, which had sails and as many as 170 oarsmen.</i> Research into battles such as Salamis against Persians, Thermopylae or Marathon show the tactics used by the Ancient Greeks and the strength of the city-states successfully working together.	Disciplinary Knowledge I can describe the many factors needed to build and maintain a successful Empire. I can describe the social and cultural differences between Athens and Sparta. I can compare similarities and differences between the Ancient and Modern Olympics I can retell stories from the ancient past and make links between fictional and non-fictional events	Technical Vocabulary city-state, democracy, architecture, empire, culture, predict	Key figures / significant events Mount Olympus 776 BC – Olympic Games began 1896 – revival of the Games in Athens

Lesson Breakdown

Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Lesson 3	Lesson 4	Lesson 5
Flashback Four	Flashback Four	Flashback Four	Flashback Four	Flashback Four
Last Lesson What valid reasons could be given for the decline in the Maya civilisation? <i>Diseases introduced by the conquistadores, famine, natural disasters.</i> Last Topic Tikal was a powerful city between 2000 BC and 250 BC. What significant building was “found” in the mid 19th century? <i>The temple pyramid of Tikal is over 47 metres high, with other temples in the complex as tall as 70 metres.</i> Last Year The Vikings - is it right that they are still perceived as raiders, looters and murderers? <i>No, they were also skilled craftspeople in textiles, wood and metal. Plus, women had the right to manage their own property</i>	Last Lesson What similarities are there between Ancient Greece and modern-day Greece? <i>Ancient Greece and Modern Greece are still similar in the location, climate and terrain and some of the structures that are still standing were built in Ancient Greece.</i> Last Topic Why are we still discovering Mayan cities? The Maya region is one of dense rainforest. <i>Advances in archaeology technology and aerial photography is helping to reveal lost Mayan cities as well as the destruction of the rainforest.</i> Last Year How was England divided during the time of King Alfred and the Vikings?	Last Lesson Describe differences between Athens and Sparta. <i>Athens was a successful trading city and famous for its government and the beginning of democracy. Sparta was also very wealthy, and built up its power by having a big emphasis on warfare; it was the only state to have a professional army.</i> Last Topic Why do we think the Mayans had so many gods? <i>They felt they needed gods to represent all the important areas in their lives. They felt the gods controlled their lives, and they needed to keep them happy.</i> Last Year On the Titanic, there were very different classes of passengers. They were aboard for very different reasons. What were they?	Last Lesson Give examples of sports held in the Ancient Olympics that are also part of the modern day Olympic Games. <i>Boxing, running, discus, javelin, riding (no longer bare back, long jump).</i> Last Topic Why did the Mayans think trade was so important? <i>The Mayans did not have all the resources they needed in one area. They traded basic items like food and materials, and luxury items like valuable stones, including jade and obsidian (formed when volcanic lava cools down).</i> Last Year The Kindertransport was a significant operation during the Second World War. Were there negative aspects to it?	Last Lesson Name the king of the Gods in Ancient Greek mythology and give examples of myths told from those times. <i>Zeus was King of the Gods. Pandora’s Box, Trojan Horse, Perseus and Medusa.</i> Last Topic What reasons are given for the disappearance of the Maya civilisation? <i>A natural disaster could have occurred killing many hundreds of people; there may have been a famine; war between the states or that new diseases brought by Spanish conquistadors could have had fatal consequences.</i> Last Year When you look at maps from the time of Walter Raleigh, the world looks different to what it does on modern maps. Why?

<p><i>and money, even after they married and they played a role in the court, church and on the battlefield.</i></p> <p><u>Last Key Stage</u> How have holidays changed since your grandparents went away on holiday. <i>We go abroad now as well as holiday at home, we go more often, not just for a 2 week break in August. There is more variety of holidays - adventure, ski-ing, golfing, cruises, beach, family/adults only.</i></p>	<p><i>King Alfred and Guthrum agreed to divide England. The Vikings ruled the north, in the area known as the Danelaw, whilst King Alfred ruled the south.</i></p> <p><u>Last Key Stage</u> Why do we have Bonfire Night in November and should we still celebrate it? <i>Bonfire Night celebrates the collapse of the Gunpowder Plot on 4th November 1605 - when Guy Fawkes and other Catholic nobleman tried to blow up the king, James 1st and the Houses of Parliament. Opinions may vary as to whether we should still celebrate the event.</i></p>	<p><i>Most of the Irish passengers were travelling in search of a better life in the USA or Canada; some had already settled there and had just returned to Ireland to see relatives. Many of the 1st class passengers were sailing for leisure; some wanted to be on Titanic's maiden voyage; some were going to America on business; some were returning home to America after a holiday in Britain or to visit family.</i></p> <p><u>Last Key Stage</u> How have aeroplanes changed the way we take a holiday? <i>Cheap flights so it has become more affordable, more comfort, planes can fly greater distances, travel companies can provide cheaper All-In packages for families, it can be cheaper than a holiday in the UK.</i></p>	<p><i>Children had to leave their parents who they never saw again. Some children had good homes but some ended up in homes that were not so welcoming. It was hard coping with a different culture.</i></p> <p><u>Last Key Stage</u> The Great Fire of London happened in 1666 and raged for three days destroying many homes. How different would it be today if our town caught fire? <i>The fire service is now a professional, well equipped service that can respond to a fire within minutes and has modern fire fighting equipment and expert knowledge to deal with any outbreak.</i></p>	<p><i>Many countries were as yet undiscovered by Europeans - Australasia, Antarctica, the Arctic, the America's and were still populated by only their indigenous people - the Aborigines, Native Americans.</i></p> <p><u>Last Key Stage</u> Some people consider Leah Williamson as a Local Hero. What is your opinion of that and is it deserving? <i>Grew up in Newport Pagnell, Captain of England Women's Football; was a key player during the European Cup in 2022 and has been a key promoter of women within football. Opinions may vary.</i></p>
<p><u>Learning Objective</u> LO: To know the location and time period of Ancient Greece, and draw comparisons with other civilisations and present day. <u>Success Criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● I can put Ancient Greece on a timeline, and compare that period with other civilisations studied.● I can give some reasons why Ancient Greece became so powerful.● I can identify what Greece is like now, and identify some links between the modern world and Ancient Greece. <p><u>Star Knowledge</u> Ancient Greece and Modern Greece are still similar in the location, climate and terrain and some of the structures that are still standing were built in Ancient Greece. The Romans introduced the name 'Greece', before that it was called Hellenes. Ancient Greece Empire became a very prosperous and successful empire by trading with other countries.</p>	<p><u>Learning Objective</u> LO: To compare the lives led by the Spartans and the Athenians. <u>Success Criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● I can acquire knowledge related to the study of the Spartans and Athenians using a variety of sources of evidence.● I can make valid comparisons between the lives of Spartans and Athenians.● I understand what is meant by 'democracy', and can make links to government in the 21st century. <p><u>Star Knowledge</u> Athens was the largest, most powerful and wealthy city-state by the 5th century BC. The city had a strong navy, key buildings included the Acropolis, the Parthenon and the Agora. Athens was famous for its government and the beginning of democracy. Sparta was also very wealthy, and built up its power by having a big emphasis on warfare; it was the only state to have a professional army. Boys began to train for the army from the age of seven and girls were encouraged to be very fit and take part in physical activities.</p>	<p><u>Learning Objective</u> LO: To understand the importance of the Olympic Games to the Ancient Greeks and to make a valid comparison with the modern Games. <u>Success Criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● I can provide valid reasons why the Ancient Olympic Games were important.● I can use sources to extend my knowledge and make valid conclusions about the Ancient Olympic Games (noting the different interpretations between sources).● I can make several comparisons to show both change and continuity between the Ancient and Modern Olympic Games, from a variety of sources. <p><u>Star Knowledge</u> The modern Olympics are held every 4 years in different locations and there are summer, winter and paralympic games. In 2012 the summer Olympics was held in London. The Ancient Olympic Games were held in Olympia and as well as being an important sporting event it also had a religious significance. Sports, included bareback riding, chariot racing, boxing and wrestling, a game called pankration (a mix of boxing and wrestling). There were also running events and the pentathlon, which included sprinting, boxing, discus, javelin and the long jump. Women were not allowed to take part in the games. Decorated pottery from Ancient Greece gives us information about the people and times.</p>	<p><u>Learning Objective</u> LO: To understand the importance of religion and the gods to the Ancient Greek people <u>Success Criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● I can reach valid conclusions about people in Ancient Greece from studying their myths.● I can understand why we have different interpretations of stories from the past.● I can make links between the importance of religion in Greek society with that of other societies studied. <p><u>Star Knowledge</u> Religion was very important to the Ancient Greeks. They had many gods and the Ancient Greeks believed that the gods controlled their lives, and they had to keep them happy otherwise disasters would occur. Zeus was the King of the gods. Myths are stories usually focusing on gods, goddesses, heroes and amazing creatures or monsters like the minotaur. Pandora's Box, Perseus and Medusa are one of the most famous myths and characters.</p>	<p><u>Learning Objective</u> LO: To utilise evidence to know and understand the importance of warfare in Ancient Greece. <u>Success Criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● I can explain why the Ancient Greeks fought so many wars, and why they were successful.● I can use a range of sources to reach valid conclusions about warfare in Ancient Greece.● I can identify which elements of life in Ancient Greece are still relevant today and which have not had long-term significance. <p><u>Star Knowledge</u> The Greek city-states were often engaged in warfare. Hoplites (foot soldiers) were the most important part of the army. Well known wars include The Trojan War which had the Trojan Horse. One of the most famous battles was fought at Marathon in 490 BC, Pheidippides was the soldier who ran from Marathon to Athens with news of the Greek victory and was the inspiration for the modern marathon race.</p>