

# Year 4 Flamingos

## History

### Autumn 2



# Ancient Greece

## Who were the Ancient Greeks?

The Ancient Greeks lived in Greece and the countries we now call Bulgaria and Turkey over 4000 years ago. The two most important cities in Ancient Greece were Athens and Sparta.

## What is the legacy of Ancient Greece?

Many of the things that we take for granted in our modern world originated in Ancient Greece. e.g. democracy, laws, modern mathematics, sculpture, philosophy, science, the Olympics and even medicine.

Ancient Greek myths are still read today. Monsters include Medusa and the Minotaur. Heroes include Odysseus and Perse.

Greek architecture has influenced the design of buildings all over the world. The British Museum (London) is an example of this.

The Greek alphabet and language influenced us too. Our alphabet was developed using some of the alphabet that the Ancient Greeks used. In fact, the first two letters in the Greek alphabet were 'alpha' and 'beta', which is where we get the word 'alphabet' from!



Democracy



Myths



Architecture



Alphabet

Key Vocabulary	Definition
acropolis	"City at the top" in Greek. The best-known acropolis is in Athens, Greece.
architecture	The science and art of designing buildings.
city-states	Ancient Greece was split up into smaller states, often based around a city.
democracy	A system of government where the people can vote to decide things. Athens was the first city-state to develop this system.
influence	The power or invisible action of a thing or person that causes some kind of effect on another.
moral	What is right and what is wrong in how a person acts.
Mount Olympus	The home of the gods and the site of the throne of Zeus, the chief deity.
myth	Stories about how the world was created and why certain things happen.
mythology	The collected myths of a group of people—their body of stories which they tell to explain nature, history, and customs.
Olympics	A religious festival held in honour of Zeus, attended by people from all over Greece.
legacy	Something that is part of our history that remains from an earlier time.
Parthenon	An Ancient Greek temple located in Athens, Greece.
polytheistic	Belief in many gods.

## Greek mythology

Created thousands of years ago, Greek myths were epic stories about Greek gods, passed down over generations. They are often about heroic battles and terrible creatures, and taught the importance of bravery, intelligence, and right and wrong. They showed that even the gods, like mortal men, could be punished or rewarded for their actions. Details of these ancient tales have been found on everything from pottery to temples to stone statues!

## What are the Elgin Marbles?

The ancient sculptures known as the Elgin Marbles are in the British Museum in London. They were taken from historic buildings, like the Parthenon in Athens, and shipped to England by Thomas Bruce, Lord Elgin between 1802 and 1812. This created a controversy in England that led to an investigation by Parliament.



## Timeline

