



Year 3 and 4 Knowledge Organiser - The Romans



Key vocab		At its most powerful, the Roman Empire spread across Europe, parts of North Africa and the Middle East. Its army was one of the most organised and skilful ever created. Romans took their technology, art and beliefs with them and had a significant effect on the culture and society of every land they conquered. However, the Romans faced struggles at home, with civil war and political turmoil. By the end of the fifth century, they had been attacked on several different frontiers and were finding it difficult to hold their vast empire together. As a consequence, the Western Roman Empire finally came to an end in 476 CE.		Exciting books!
turmoil:	a state of confusion and uncertainty	Sticky Knowledge		
frontiers:	borders between countries			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient Rome's success depended on its ability to win battles against invaders and neighbouring armies. The attempt in 55 BCE failed because of bad weather. A year later the Romans had limited success, only conquering the southern Celtic tribes.
territory:	land controlled by a ruler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The early Romans also made treaties (agreements) with neighbours and other city-states until, with their powerful, well trained army, they became the undisputed rulers of Italy. They were back almost one hundred years later in 43 CE under the command of Emperor Claudius. 		
constitution:	a system of laws and rules			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rome went through many changes in the way it was governed. Firstly ruled by kings, it then became a republic (a state without a king) in 509 BCE and was led by senators using a constitution. Claudius brought a much larger army and pushed north and west from the south coast.
dictator:	a ruler with total power over a country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> However, civil wars and arguments about how to rule went on for centuries. The Romans travelled as far as modern-day Scotland but were unable to keep this area under control, building a wall to keep the northernmost tribes out. 		
assassinated:	killed for political reasons			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 45 BCE Julius Caesar, the famous general, declared himself the supreme ruler and dictator for life of Rome. Following the successful conquest of much of Britain, the Romans stayed in Britain until 410 CE.
territories:	lands controlled by a ruler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He was assassinated the following year by political rivals who wanted a return to the Republic. The Romans brought significant changes to Britain. They built over 10,000 miles of roads and built houses, forts and temples from stone rather than wood. 		
emperor:	man who rules an empire			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Myths (stories told to explain customs and beliefs) were a significant part of Roman life. The Romans also brought bathhouses, central heating and sanitation and built one of the most famous set of defences in history: Hadrian's Wall.
sanitation:	keeping places clean with a sewage system and clean water supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Led by the famous military commander Julius Caesar, the Roman army first tried to invade Britain in 55 and 54 BCE. From Hadrian's Wall in Northumberland to Pompeii in Italy, there is lots of evidence for archaeologists and historians to build a picture of Roman life. 		
resistance:	fighting back against attackers			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mosaics, pottery, jewellery and coins help to explain the structure of society and give details of the beliefs of the early Romans. The preservation of Pompeii has prevented the erosion of these essential primary sources. Thanks to the engineering skills of the Romans, ancient buildings like the Colosseum and the Pantheon, built thousands of years ago from concrete, are a significant source of historical evidence that survive to this day.
preservation:	protection from decay or damage			



