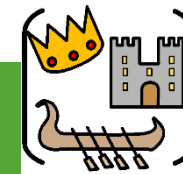


## Year 3

### Roman Britain AD43 – AD410 Knowledge Organiser

#### What did the Romans do for me?



Key Vocabulary	Key Questions and Facts		
<p><b>Conquer:</b> to defeat someone or something, usually with force, like army troops that conquer enemy territory.</p> <p><b>Invade:</b> to enter by force or to occupy in large numbers.</p> <p><b>Boudicca:</b> Boudicca was a Celtic queen who is famous for rising up against the Roman occupation in AD60 or 61.</p> <p><b>Caledonians:</b> a tribe of indigenous people who lived in what is now known as Scotland they were enemies of the Roman empire.</p> <p><b>Forum:</b> in Roman cities was a multipurpose, centrally located open area that served as a public gathering place.</p> <p><b>Baths:</b> in Roman cities were like a community centre where people worked out, relaxed, and met with other people.</p> <p><b>Latrine:</b> a toilet or an even simpler facility that is used as a toilet.</p> <p><b>Londinium:</b> also known as Roman London, was the capital of Roman Britain during most of the period of Roman rule.</p>	<p><b>What was the Roman Empire?</b></p> <p>The Roman Empire was the largest empire of the ancient world. Its capital was Rome, and its empire was based in the Mediterranean. The Empire dates from 27 BC, when Octavian became the Emperor Augustus, until it fell in 476 AD, marking the end of the Ancient World and the beginning of the Middle Ages, or Dark Ages. The ancient Romans were based in Rome in Italy, but they ruled over land that stretched far beyond the borders of Rome. This was called the Roman Empire, and it covered large parts of land all around the Mediterranean Sea – and even part of Great Britain.</p>	<p><b>What does the chronology of Roman Britain look like?</b></p> <p>Britain was part of the Roman empire from AD43 to 410 so it functioned as part of the Roman empire for 367 years. The Roman Empire made its mark on Britain, and even today, the ruins of Roman buildings, forts, roads, and baths can be found all over Britain. By the time the Roman armies left around 410 AD, they had established medical practice, a language of administration and law and had created great public buildings and roads. Many English words are derived from the Latin language of the Romans.</p>	<p><b>What was the reaction to the Roman invasion?</b></p> <p>Between 55 and 54 BC, Caesar undertook two military expeditions to Britain. Although these campaigns did not intend or result in conquest, he extracted tribute from some of the British tribes and gained knowledge of southern Britain's natural resources and their potential value to Rome. In the century after Caesar, contact between Britons and Romans increased. Some of the British tribes, such as the Atrebatians of central southern Britain, developed political and trading relationships with Rome and adopted some Roman ways. Silchester (Hampshire) developed as a town with organised streets, its people importing Roman wine, olive oil and other products. Other tribes, such as the Catuvellauni, who were based further north and east, remained wary or opposed.</p>
	<p><b>What are the most significant Roman achievements?</b></p> <p>The Romans had much more advanced technology than many other civilisations at the time. They developed many things that had been used before and made them better, such as sewers, aqueducts and roads, but they also invented lots of new things, many of which we still use today: concrete, newspapers, books, calendar and even central heating.</p>	<p><b>What is the legacy of Roman Britain?</b></p> <p>From military structures such as forts and walls (including Hadrian's Wall) to engineering innovations like baths and aqueducts, the most obvious impact of the Romans that can still be seen today is their buildings. Most buildings in Iron Age Britain were made of timber and were often round in form. The Romans built in stone, in straight lines and in a grand scale. Large settlements did exist in Britain before the Romans arrived, but they were the first to introduce significant 'towns' and administrative centres built to a plan.</p>	<p><b>How did Roman Britain end?</b></p> <p>By AD410 the city of Rome was under attack and the empire was falling apart. So the Romans had to leave Britain to help back home. The Roman Emperor Honorius sent a goodbye letter to the people of Britain. He wrote: "fight bravely and defend your lives...you are on your own now". After they left many of the Roman towns in Britain crumbled away as people went back to living in the countryside.</p>

## Significant Individuals and Places

**Villa:** a farmhouse or country house built in the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire, sometimes reaching extravagant proportions.

**Emperor:** a person who ruled over the Roman Empire for a period of time during the imperial period.

**Chester:** The city of Chester was founded as a fort, known as Deva, by the Romans in AD 79. The city was the scene of battles between warring Welsh and Saxon kingdoms.

**Wroxeter:** Viroconium, now named Wroxeter Roman City is an archaeological site located in the village of Wroxeter in Shropshire, England.

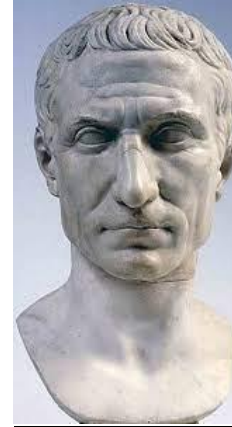
**Aqueduct:** a large pipe or canal which carries a water supply to a city or a farming area.

### Emperor Honorius



Honorius (9 September 384 – 15 August 423) was Roman emperor from 393 to 423. He was the younger son of emperor Theodosius I. After the death of Theodosius, Honorius ruled the western half of the empire while his brother Arcadius ruled the eastern half.

### Julius Caesar



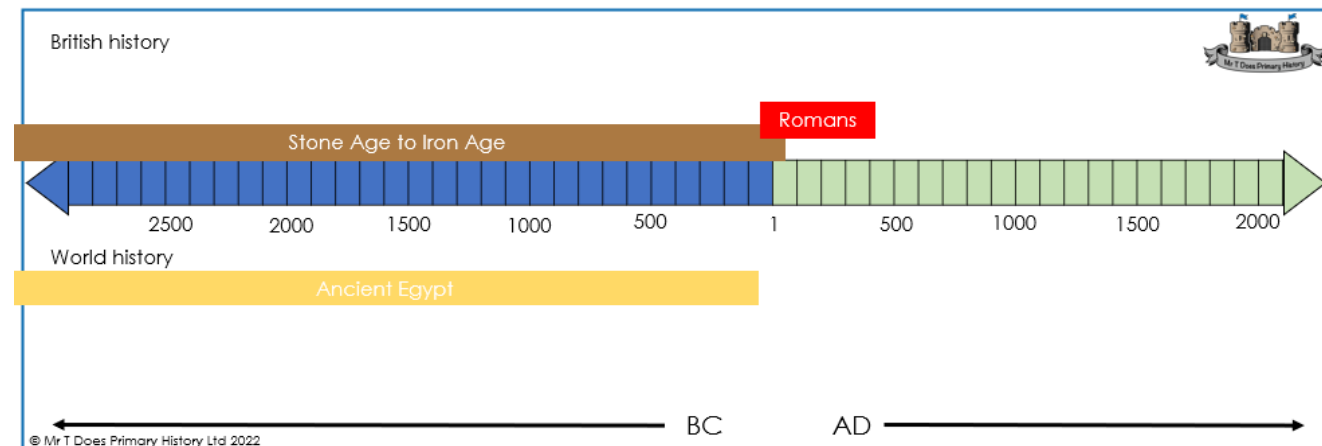
Julius Caesar was a famous Roman leader. He won many battles for Rome and helped the Roman Empire grow. While Caesar had a glowing career in both politics and as a military commander, he was only leader of the Roman Empire for a year before he was assassinated by political enemies.

### Emperor Claudius



Emperor Claudius was probably best known for his successful expansion of Rome, into Britain and parts of Africa and the Middle East. Despite him being a family embarrassment,

Claudius was actually an accomplished leader who was able to give his citizens more rights, put laws in place that protected enslaved workers and extended Roman citizenships.



### Roman Britain

The Romans came to Britain looking for land and people to enslave. But what they really wanted to find was iron, lead, zinc, copper, silver and gold to increase the wealth of the empire.

It took the Romans three attempts to conquer Britain. Julius Caesar first invaded in 55 BC, but the army he brought wasn't large enough, and they had to retreat from battles with Celtic tribes. They tried again a year later with a larger army, but still didn't succeed.

In 43 AD, nearly 100 years later, Emperor Claudius invaded for a third time with four legions of men and another 20,000 auxiliaries. With such a big army, the Romans finally managed to gain control and conquer Britain, despite battles that continued for several years. Britain then remained part of the Roman Empire for almost 4 centuries, until 410 AD.

#### Roman Roads and towns:

The Roman army are famous for building long, straight roads. Special engineers planned these roads and they criss-crossed the whole Roman Empire. They boosted trade, communication with the Emperor and helped the legions to keep control of all the different provinces.

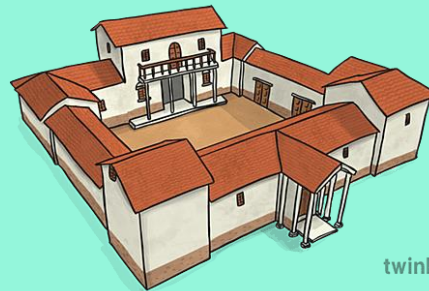


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The Romans built new towns all over Britain. Each one had a marketplace, town hall, shops, temples and homes; larger towns had an amphitheatre. Bath houses were elaborately designed and were popular places to relax and meet friends.

#### Roman Villas:

Wealthy Romans and some Celts built large homes in the countryside called villas. The land attached to these homes was used for farming as agriculture was an important business for the Romans. Countryside villa complexes included a main house, bath house, workshops, and gardens.



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Visit the following website to find out about a local Roman city:

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/wroxeter-roman-city/>

#### Hadrian's Wall:

In AD 122, Emperor Hadrian gave an order to build a wall in the north of the country. Roman legions had tried to conquer Caledonia (Scotland), but the Picts would not give up their lands and they also raided land that the Romans controlled. Hadrian's Wall took around six years to build and it was 73 miles long. Around 15,000 troops lived at Hadrian's Wall so they could defend this northern border of the Roman Empire.



### Useful Websites

**Britannica Kids** – Ancient Rome and Hadrian's wall: <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/ancient-Rome/353728> <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Hadrians-Wall/603149>

**Super Brainy Beans** – Romans – Super Brainy History. <https://superbrainybeans.com/history/romans/>

**Twinkl History Homework Help** – How was life in Roman Britain? <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/teaching-wiki/life-in-roman-britain>