

Year 4: World History

The Roman Empire

Key Learning

Around 2,000 years ago, the city of Rome was at the centre of a huge empire. Rome ruled over 45 million people across the world.

The Romans attempted to invade Britain 3 times. They wanted the precious metals found here. Julius Caesar first invaded in 55BC and 54 BC. Finally, nearly 100 years later, in 43AD Emperor Claudius started to successfully take over Britain.

There are lots of remains of the Romans which help us to see what life was like then:



coins



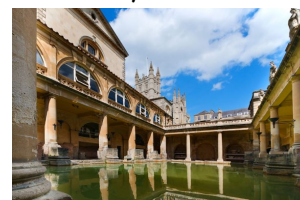
Pottery



The Celts who were living in Britain at the time were not happy that the Romans were taking over. In AD60, Queen Boudicca got together an army to fight the Romans. She burnt down Roman towns including London.



Hadrian's Wall



Roman Baths

The Romans had one of the largest, most powerful armies in the world. They had the best weapons and armour. At one point the Roman army had over half a million soldiers. To keep track of this they were split into groups called legions.



Amphitheatre



Thousands of people would gather in amphitheatres to watch Gladiators fight.



Wealthy Romans lived in Villa's some of which were kept warm with underfloor heating. Aqueducts were built to bring water to the city. The Romans also built forts and walls to protect their towns and cities and built straight roads to enable the army to move quickly around the country.

London (known then as Londinium) was the most important city in Roman Britain.

In AD 410 the Romans left Britain as they were under attack from many different tribes.

Key Vocabulary

amphitheatre	A round, open aired theatre in which people watched sporting events.
aqueduct	A roman invention to carry water into cities.
Legion	The Roman legion was the largest military unit of the Roman army
Centurion	A centurion commanded a unit of around 100 legionaries but was also responsible for assigning duties, dishing out punishments, and performing various administrative duties.
gladiator	A man trained to fight another man or wild animals in front of an audience.
empire	An area of land or countries that are ruled over by one person.

Significant People/Places

Julius Caesar—Attempted to invade Britain in 55BC and 54BC	
Emperor Claudius — Successfully invaded Britian in 43AD.	
Romulus and Remus- In Roman mythology these are the brothers who founded the city of Rome.	
Queen Boudicca- The leader of a celtic tribe who fought against the Romans.	