

Knowledge Organiser for Eagles History Topic: Romans

National Curriculum specifications:

- The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain

Timeline of key events

55-54 BC	Julius Caesar's attempted invasion
43	Romans invade and Britain becomes part of the Roman Empire
60-61	Boadicea leads the Iceni in revolt against the Romans
122-128	Emperor Hadrian builds a wall on the Scottish Border
306	Constantine the Great declared Emperor at York
401-410	The Romans withdraw from Britain: Anglo Saxons migrants begin to settle

Key Concepts

Historical evidence	Anything left over from the past is a source of evidence. An historical source becomes historical evidence when it is interpreted by an historian to make sense of the past
Roman invasion	First invasion - Caesar's first raid. In 55 BC the Roman general, Emperor Julius Caesar invaded Britain. After winning several battles against the Celtic tribes (Britons) he returned to France. Second invasion - Caesar's second raid. The following summer (in 54BC) Caesar came to Britain again. After more fighting, the British tribes promised to pay tribute to Rome and were then left in peace for nearly a century. Third and final invasion. Nearly one hundred years later, in 43, Emperor Claudius organised the final and successful Roman invasion of Britain.
Impact of the Roman empire	The Romans, even today, play an important part in our lives. Many of the things we do or have originated from the Romans (e.g. language, laws, roads, central heating, concrete).
British resistance	Britain was conquered by Emperor Claudius in AD43 – despite fierce resistance by the chieftain Caratacus and a rebellion by Boudicca (AD60). However, the Romans were not able to conquer Scotland – their Ninth Legion may have been destroyed there – and in the 120s they pulled back behind Hadrian's Wall.

Did you know ...?

- The Romans built such a huge empire and conquered new lands, thanks to their strong army. The Roman army could march up to 40km a day!
- During battle, a Roman soldier or 'legionary' first hurled his spear at the enemy, then he fought him with his sword. To protect himself, he carried a wooden shield and wore a metal helmet and armour.
- The Romans didn't spend all their time fighting – they were amazing architects and engineers too! They built roads and walls – things we now take for granted.
- To bring water to their cities, the clever Romans built aqueducts – a system of channels and bridges – to transport water for public baths and toilets!
- The Romans liked to enjoy their food, often lying down on a couch while eating with their hands. They occasionally used a spoon, but they would never use a knife and fork.

Key vocabulary

Empire	An extensive group of states or countries ruled over by a single monarch or a sovereign state
Chronology	The arrangement of dates or events in the order in which they occurred
BC	Before Christ. A way of dating years before the birth of Jesus. The bigger the number BC, the longer ago in history it was
AD	Anno Domini - "in the year of our Lord". AD is used to show dates after the birth of Jesus. This year is 2019 AD
Archaeology	The study of the buildings, graves, tools and other objects that belonged to people who lived in the past, in order to learn about their culture and society
Chariot	Cart with two wheels pulled by horses.
Forum	Open space in the middle of a town for markets and meeting people
Legion	A military unit recruited from Roman citizens and usually around 5000 men in strength.
Mosaic	A pattern made from coloured pieces of stones and pottery.
Londinium	The Roman name for London.