Hopton Primary School

Knowledge Organiser for KS2 Year 6
Topic: Ancient Greeks

Key facts:

The term Ancient, or Archaic, Greece refers to the years 700-480 B.C.
The Classical Age refers to the years 480-323 B.C. This period was famous for arts, culture, philosophy and architecture.
The most powerful city states were Athens, Sparta, Corinth and Thebes
The Battle of Marathon between Darius, King of Persia and Miltiades (commander of the Athenian army) was fought in 490 BC
The first Olympics were held in 776BC
Alexander the Great conquered all of Greece in 335BC

Important questions:

How did the geography of Greece impact on its history?
Does Sparta or Athens deserve the title of greatest city state? Why?
What were the reasons for the success of the Athenians at the Battle of Marathon?
What was the role of women in ancient Greece?
How do the ancient Olympics compare to modern day?
What can we learn about the ancient Greeks from a study of their vase paintings?

Key skills for you to practise:

Look at photos of ancient Greek artefacts – what can you tell about the society from your observations?

What do we need to learn?

The ancient Greeks did not think of themselves as Greeks – they thought of themselves as belonging to their city state.

Each city state had its own rulers, form of government, philosophy and worshipped their own gods.

They ancient Greeks worshipped many gods including the 12 gods that they believed lived on Mount Olympus.

The ancient Greeks gave us many words that we use in our society today. We will be able to compare and contrast our modern day society to that of ancient Greece.

The city states of ancient Greece

What I should already know:

Foundation	Understanding how a timeline works
Y4	Roman civilization

Links to Future Learning:

Year 6	European geography – links to WW2 map of Europe. Democracy – links to PSHE and British Values.

Key Vocabulary:

Word	What does it mean?
Democracy	A system of government by all the eligible members of a state, through elected representatives.
Athens	An ancient Greek city state famous for its arts, learning and philosophy.
Sparta	An ancient Greek city state well-known for its powerful army.
Acropolis	An ancient rocky hill high above the city of Athens. Important buildings such as the Parthenon were built here.
Parthenon	A temple on the acropolis of Athens – housed a huge statue of the goddess Athena.
Hoplite	Soldiers of city states armed with armour, spears and shields
Amphora	A two handled storage jar that contained grain, oil, wine or milk