



Roman Britain



Vocabulary

amphitheatre	A place where Romans went to watch animals and people fighting.
army	a large group of people trained and organised for warfare
aqueduct	A system of pipes and channels which brings clean water into towns.
chariot	Cart with two wheels pulled by horses. Romans raced chariots, and Celtic warriors rode into battle on them.
colosseum	Large open-air air theatre where people watched gladiators fight and other shows and events including chariot racing.
conquest	a military invasion
empire	a person who rules an empire
legion	A military unit of 5000 men, recruited from Roman citizens.
Londinium	The Roman name for London.
republic	a government having a leader who is not a king or queen
revolt	to rise up and fight against a government or ruler
Roman	A person who lives in or comes from Rome.
Roman Governor	The ruler of Roman Britain, who worked for the Roman Emperor.
Senate	The Roman government, made up of senators.
Senator	A person elected to be part of the government.
slave	Someone sold to another person to work for them for free.

Dear parents,

Our next Humanities topic is a History unit called '**Roman Britain**'. Please help your children to prepare for this topic by learning some of the key words and the facts on this sheet.

There are some homework activities on the back of this sheet. Your child can complete these at any time. Your child's teacher would love to see what they have created.

Thank you for your support,
Kind regards,
Year 3 Teachers

A number of Roman emperors **wanted the glory of conquering Britain** and adding it to the empire. The Romans also wanted Britain's precious metals **gold, tin and iron** - and its cattle.

The Roman invasion of Britain could be the most significant event ever to happen to the British Isles. The Romans affected our **language**, our **culture**, our **geography**, our **architecture** and even the way we think. Some remains of the Romans being in Britain still exist today.



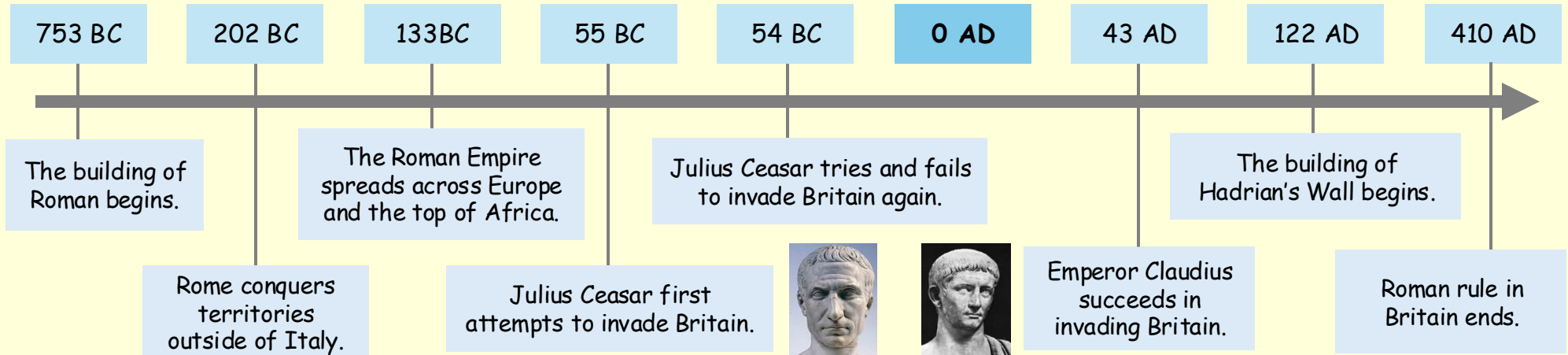
These are the ruins of the barracks at Chester's Roman Fort. It was built around AD123 and the Romans called it 'Cilurum'. Soldiers who lived here would have served on Hadrian's Wall.

Around 2,000 years ago, Britain was ruled by tribes of people called the **Celts**.

Roman Britain Timeline

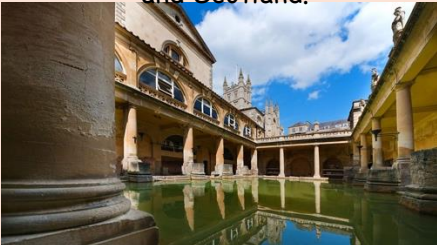
BC - Before Christ

AD - Anno Domini



Hadrian's Wall - built 123AD

Built to divide Roman Britain and Scotland.



Roman Baths in Bath, Somerset - built 70AD

Roman Roads



The Romans built the first roads in Britain. They built over 9000 kilometres of roads. The roads were so well built that you can still see some of them today. Many of our modern roads are in the same place as the Roman ones. They built roads as straight as possible in order to travel as quickly as they could. Winding roads took longer and bandits and robbers could be hiding around bends. People would either ride on horseback, drive carts pulled by oxen, or they would walk.



Roman soldiers

Roman soldiers had to be physically fit. They were expected to march up to 20 miles per day in line, wearing all their armour and carrying their food and tents. Roman soldiers were trained to fight well and to defend themselves. If the enemy shot arrows at them, they would use their shields to surround their bodies and protect themselves. This formation was known as 'the turtle' or 'Tortoise'.

They fought with short swords, daggers for stabbing and a long spear for throwing. They also carried a shield for protection as well as wearing armour.

Homework Ideas:

- Make a Roman style shield.
- Romans wore clothes called Togas - create a Toga and take a photograph of you wearing it (Top Tip - a white bed sheet is handy for this).
- Create a mosaic picture using collage materials - keep it simple!
- Research a Roman invention and make a poster to share your ideas - can you make this 3D?
- Research, design and make a piece of Roman Jewellery - try making your own Bulla