



Key Vocabulary	
<b>ancient</b>	Something from a very long time ago.
<b>Athenian</b>	People from the Greek city of Athens.
<b>city state</b>	A small area that <b>ancient</b> Greece was divided into which had its own government, laws and army.
<b>civilisation</b>	The people, culture and way of life of a certain area.
<b>democracy</b>	A fair political system where adults vote for an elected government who then make decisions on how to run the country.
<b>empire</b>	A group of countries that is ruled by one ruler or country.
<b>honour</b>	To show respect and admiration for someone or something.
<b>Persian</b>	People from the area of Persia.
<b>philosopher</b>	Someone who studies the idea of right and wrong, the value of things and knowledge.
<b>Spartans</b>	People from the Greek city of Sparta.

### The Olympic Games

- Began in 776 BC in Olympia.
- Believed to be a religious event to **honour** Zeus, the King of the Gods.
- Events included boxing, wrestling, long-distance running and chariot racing.
- Some of the evidence about the games comes from paintings discovered on vases.

### Greek Gods and Goddesses

- The **ancient** Greeks believed that their gods and goddesses controlled everything and should be respected and **honoured**.
- Temples and shrines were built as places of worship.
- Festivals were held to celebrate the gods and goddesses and people would make offerings to them in the hope of being granted good fortune.
- It is believed that the 12 most powerful gods lived on Mount Olympus.
- Stories were told about the gods and goddesses and included heroic quests and scary beasts.



#### Zeus

- The most powerful of all the gods.
- God of the Sky and the King of Mount Olympus.
- His temper affected the weather, and when he was angry he threw thunderbolts.



#### Hera

- The sister and wife of Zeus.
- She was powerful and beautiful but very jealous and vain.
- Hera is an earth goddess and the goddess of family and marriage.



### Battles and Wars

Battles took place between different **city states** but when an outside enemy attacked, these **city states** would sometimes join forces.

#### The Battle of Marathon

- The **Athenians** were being invaded by the **Persians** and needed more soldiers to help them fight.
- Pheidippides was sent to run to Sparta to ask them to join forces with the **Athenians**. He ran 26 miles from Athens to Sparta which took him two days.
- The **Spartans** said they would help but only after they had finished celebrating a festival.
- Pheidippides ran all the way back to Athens to tell them they would have to wait.
- The **Athenian** army couldn't wait and unbelievably, with strong fighting strategies, they were victorious.
- Pheidippides ran all the way back to Athens to tell them of the army's victory but when he arrived after delivering the message, he died.



#### The Trojan War

- The Trojan War is a famous story told by the famous Greek writer, Homer.
- The Greeks had a plan to win a battle against the Trojans... they gifted a large wooden horse to the city which the Trojans thought was a sign that the Greeks had given up.
- Hiding inside the horse, was a group of Greek soldiers, who, in the dead of night, climbed out and let the rest of the Greek army into the city to fight.
- Finally, the city of Troy was destroyed.

