

**Learning Enquires**

The Olympic Games

The first official **Olympic Games** happened in 776 BC and then continued to take place once every four years. As well as being the most important sporting event for the Ancient Greeks, the **Olympic Games** were also a very important religious festival.

Olympia was associated with **Zeus**, the king of the gods, and the Olympic Games were held in his honour. Every four years, tens of thousands of visitors from all over Greece headed to Olympia to watch or take part in the games.

How do you think the Ancient Greek Olympics influenced the current day Olympics?

What similarities and differences are there?

The Trojan Horse



The king of Sparta found out that a prince from Troy had kidnapped his beautiful wife Helen. The prince's name was Paris and he took Helen back to Troy and married her.

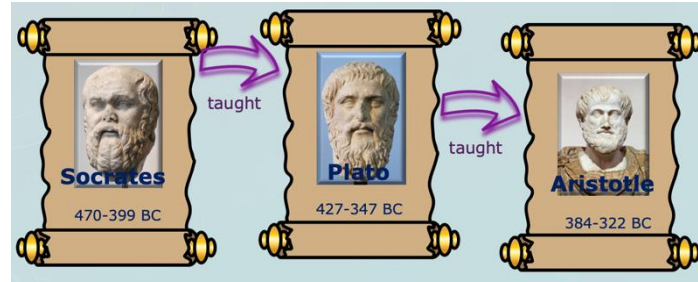
For over 10 years, there were many battles between the Greeks and the Trojans. Greek soldiers could not break through the Trojan walls and the Trojan soldiers could not fight the Greek soldiers away from their position outside the city.

The Greeks built a large, beautifully-crafted wooden horse and left it outside the gates of the city, acting like it was a peace gift for the Trojans. But it was all a trick, because inside the wooden horse the Greek soldiers were waiting to attack.

At nightfall, the Greeks emerged from the horse and then opened the gates to allow more of their army to enter. A battle began and this time, the Greeks won and set the city of Troy on fire. Finally, the Greeks had won their victory!

Philosophy

There were many famous thinkers from Ancient Greek times. Three of the most famous philosophers were all connected by being students of one another.



Greek philosophers asked and answered all sorts of questions, discussing important ideas about how the world worked. Some of them wrote books that people still read today. In fact, their ideas about maths, science, history, medicine and government still shape modern society in important ways.

Clothing

When children reached school age, they usually wore the same style of clothes as adults. Generally, people wore two pieces of clothing – a tunic (sometimes called a chiton or peplos) and a cloak (called a himation). Women's tunics were often ankle-length, whereas men's clothes usually came to their knees. Fasteners, like buttons, pins and brooches, were important for keeping the clothing in place.



**Vocabulary Dozen**

<b>Olympic games</b>	An important sporting event originating from Ancient Greece, held every four years.
<b>Chariot</b>	A chariot is a small carriage pulled by horses.
<b>Pentathlon</b>	Five events in the Olympic games; the jump, discus, foot race, javelin throw and wrestling.
<b>Zeus</b>	King of the Gods.
<b>Philosopher</b>	A philosopher studies topics such as existence, reason, knowledge, value, mind, and language.
<b>Troy</b>	Troy was an ancient country located in present-day Turkey.
<b>Trojan horse</b>	A wooden horse said to have been used by the Greeks during the Trojan War to enter the city of Troy.
<b>Trojan</b>	An ancient people who inhabited the city of Troy.
<b>Conquer</b>	To overcome and take control of.
<b>Chiton</b>	A form of tunic that fastens at the shoulder, worn by men and women of ancient Greece and Rome.
<b>Peplos</b>	A draped, outer garment made of a single piece of cloth that was worn by women in ancient Greece.
<b>Himation</b>	An outer garment worn by the ancient Greeks over the left shoulder and under the right.