Year 4 Romans in Britain

Autumn 1

Topic vocabulary

invade	to enter as an enemy, by force, in order to conquer [take over]
Rebel/ rebellion	to fight against those in control and refuse to obey their rules
taxes	a sum of money paid to a government
villa	a large, luxurious country house
forum	the central place in Roman towns where people gathered for public meetings
aqueduct	Long stone waterways that delivered fresh water to cities, flowing into a holding tank (castellum).
baths	Using a central heating system, the Romans would create public bathing areas using bricks.
basilica	a large, oblong building of Rome used as a church
amphitheatre	A large oval building to watch gladiators battle. The Colosseum in Rome is a huge example of one
empire	Controlled from Rome, the Empire included most of Europe, the Mediterranean and North Africa.
gladiator	An armed fighter who entertained audiences in violent battles with criminals and animals
legacy	The long lasting changes left by a civilization

Hadrian's Wall

The Beachy Head Lady

Julius Caesar

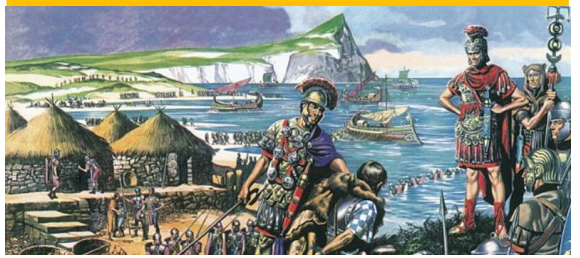
A 'bust' of Claudius

Boudicca

Timeline of Events

743 BCE	Rome is founded by (according to myth) Romulus and Remus, two brothers.
264 BCE -146 BCE	Rome fights in three Punic wars against Carthage, a powerful empire in north Africa. Rome eventually defeated Carthage, destroyed the city and became the most powerful empire in the western world.
55 BCE	Julius Caesar leads a failed invasion of Britain.
43 CE	Claudius leads an invasion of Britain and successfully conquers it, making it part of the Roman Empire.
60 CE	Celtic Queen Boudicca leads a rebellion against the Romans.
78 CE	The conquest of England and Wales is complete and completely under Roman rule.
100 CE	Over 8.000 new roads are built.
102 CE	Hadrian's wall is built to protect against the 'barbarians' in Scotland.
312 CE	Britain is converted to Christianity, the official religion of the Roman Empire.
360 CE	Britain is attacked by Picts, Scots and Saxons.
410 CE	The Roman empire struggles to defend itself against barbarian attacks in Europe. Roman officials are expelled from Britain.
476 CE	The city of Rome is conquered by Germanic general Odoacer. The last emperor of Rome abdicates (gives up power). The Roman Empire has fallen.

The Roman invasion of Britain



Romanisation of Britain

Towns and cities	Large towns and cities were built with baths, amphitheatres, market squares and street grids.
Villas	Large, brick, luxurious houses were built for the richest people.
Roads	Over 8.000 roads were built to connect towns and cities, many hundreds of miles long.
Government	Local councils were created to collect tax and run the towns and surrounding villages.
Language	The language of Rome was Latin, which was used in the towns. More people learned to read and write.
Coinage	Romans introduced their own currency (coins) which could be used anywhere.
Food	The Romans introduced new animals and crops to Britain, as well as importing their favourite food and drink.
Plumbing	Romans built aqueducts to bring fresh water into towns and cities, and drains and pipes to take dirty water out.

Important People

Julius Caesar	A Roman general who became emperor and declared himself dictator for life.
Aulus Plautius	Roman politician who became the first governor of Britain.
Claudius	The Roman emperor in charge when Britain was conquered.
Gaius Suetonius	Roman general who defeated Boudicca's rebellion.
Prasutagus	Celtic Client King and leader of the Iceni tribe.
Boudicca	Celtic queen and leader of the Iceni tribe. Led a rebellion against the Romans.
Hadrian	Roman emperor who constructed a wall between England and Scotland.
Tacitus	Roman historian, who documented Boudicca's rebellion.
Beachy Head Lady	An African woman whose skeleton was found in 1953 and is thought to have lived in the area in 245 AD