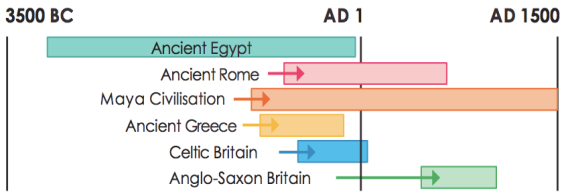
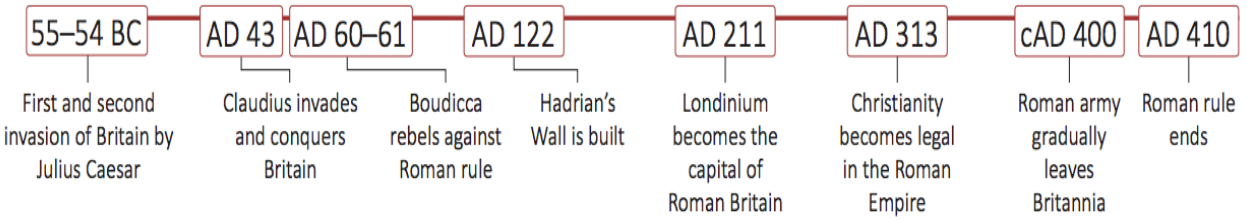
Year 3: I am Warrior Knowledge Organiser

Timeline of Roman Britain





Subject Specific Vocabulary	
Britannia	The Roman name for Britain
republic	A country ruled by elected people, rather than a king or queen
empire	A group of countries that are ruled by one leader, king or country
revolt	To refuse to be ruled or controlled by people in authority
invade	To enter a place or land with the intention of occupying it.
tribe	A group people, often of related families, who live together.
wattle and daub	A mixture of sticks, earth and clay used as a building material.
Roman numerals	Letters that ancient Romans used to write numbers
gladiators	a man trained to fight with weapons against other men or wild animals in an arena
amphitheater	An open and circular building with a central space with tiers of seats for drama or sports

Life as a Celt

The Celts were tribes people who lived in England and most of Europe over 2000 years. In Britain, there were many tribes of Celts, each with their own king. They were often at war with nearby tribes. Celts lived by farming, hunting and gathering. They built roundhouses made from wattle and daub with thatched roofs. Most Celts farmed the land and kept animals, but there were also skilled craftsmen and blacksmiths. They made jewellery using glass beads and pots from clay.

Recreation of a Celtic roundhouse in Dorset

Life as a Roman

The Romans invaded Britain in AD 43 under the order of Emperor Claudius. Their way of life was different from the Celts. Romans built towns protected by walls. Inside, they had houses, shops, meeting rooms, workshops and bathhouses. Romans also enjoyed entertainment and built amphitheatres for theatre performances and gladiator battles. Romans built roads. these made it easier for troops to move around and for goods to be traded. Some rich Romans lived in grand country houses called villas. These were large farms with a big house for the owners, with servants and farm workers.

Probably the most famous amphitheater, The Colosseum or Flavian Amphitheater in Rome, Italy.

Gladiators!

Gladiators in ancient Rome were often slaves, criminals or prisoners of war. They were trained to fight each other or with wild animals for the entertainment of large crowds. They fought in amphitheatres. Gladiators lives were tough. They lived in special training schools called *ludi*. The schools were more like prisons and they the gladiators had very little freedom. Once in the arena, they would often fight to death.

Roman mosaic showing gladiators fighting a tiger

Roman Numerals

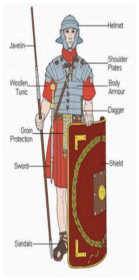
The system of numbering using Roman numerals started between 99 and 800 BC. The numerals developed because the Romans needed a way to count that would be the same for everyone. This was essential for communication and trade. Roman numerals are still used today, for example after a king's or queen's name such as Henry VIII, or on a clock or watch face.

1	I	11	XI	50	L
2	II	12	XII	100	C
3	III	13	XIII	500	D
4	IV	14	XIV	1000	M
5	V	15	XV		
6	VI	16	XVI		
7	VII	17	XVII		
8	VIII	18	XVIII		
9	IX	19	XIX		
10	X	20	XX		

What did the Romans do for us?

The Romans invented or developed many things that are still used today. They designed a system of under floor heating to keep homes warm. They developed drainage and sewage systems. The Romans built many roads, some routes are still used toady. They also built stone forts and walls for defences, such as Hadrian's Wall, which marked the boundary between Roman Britannia and the unconquered Caledonia to the north, and the fort at Vindolanda. Roman baths and aqueducts are still standing. The Romans bought in coins called *denarii* to buy things. The calendar we use today is based upon the Roman calendar, with July and August being named after Julius Caesar and Emperor Augustus.

Ruins at Vindolanda Roman fort in England

Roman Warriors

The huge Roman army was divided into groups called *legions*. Each legion was divided into groups of 80 men called *centuries*. The soldiers were well trained and organised. Roman soldiers lined up for battles in a tight formation. They carried curved, wooden shields that they lapped to form a protective shield around them called a *testudo*, meaning tortoise. Soldiers carried a short sword called a *s*, a dagger and a spear. They wore armour and helmets made of iron. Only men could be soldiers in the Roman army.