

The Rise of the Roman Empire

From Rome to Lincolnshire

We begin our journey in the present, by looking at Italy today – its place in Europe and location in the world, its physical and human geography and its cities. By studying modern Italy, we begin our story in the place where one of the most famous empires in history first grew. From Italy, we step time into Rome. We explore this city – a centre of culture, politics and history – and see how it became the heart of an empire rising.

But how do we even know about this past? We step into the world of historians and archaeologists, using evidence from ruins, artefacts, and written records. Together, we discuss how our understanding of the past is constructed and how every piece of evidence helps us tell its narrative.

*How did Lincolnshire
become part of the empire?*

*Waddington Primary School
Autumn in Year 4*

History

Using timelines and dates, we learn to order and sequence events and periods in history we have studied so far. We compare the duration of these events, noticing the rise and fall of moments in history. We now build a timeline of the Roman Empire. We place significant events from kingdoms to empires and significant figures so that we can see the story of its growth.

As we study the Romans, we discover that the past is not always told in one voice. There are different accounts of historical events and more recently on how the Romans first arrived in Britain. We explore different interpretations, thinking about what each source reveals.

From there, we meet Boudica “The Warrior Queen”, who rose against Roman rule. Was she a rebel? Different interpretations show us that her story, like all history, needs to be explored and we use this to identify Boudicca’s role in the rise of the Roman Empire. This leads us to understanding the power within the Roman army. What image comes to your mind when you think of the Roman soldiers? We challenge ideas, as sources have revealed that the empire was vast and diverse, learning that Soldiers came from many regions, not just Italy. The Roman Empire was not one voice, but many, bound together in power and growth.

At this point, we are ready to bring the story home, into Lincolnshire. Lincoln, or Lindum Colonia, as known to the Romans, became one of the most important Roman cities in Britain. Its site was chosen for a reason and evidence of Roman occupation still survives in Lincoln today – stones, roads, and ruins that tell of its significance. Here we think about cause and consequence: How and why did the Romans arrive in Lincolnshire? We ask what drew them here and what changed once they had settled.

By adding Lincolnshire’s story to the great chronology of Rome, we create a trail that shows how the growth of the empire reached Lincolnshire, and how it became part of an empire built on power, diversity, and expansion.

And then, our journey ends where Rome’s own story ends. The Roman Empire, once so strong, came to a close. But why? Here we explore the causes of its fall connecting these causes together, exploring how causes link together to unravel Rome’s power.

We will share our learning with you through
A Waddington Exhibition
A Journey Through Time



English

Diaries

Non Chronological Reports

Setting Descriptions

Adventure Stories

This term, our writing will be inspired by our learning on the Romans, allowing us to explore both fiction and non-fiction through a historical lens.

We will step into the shoes of Roman characters by writing diary entries, bringing daily life in Roman times to life through personal reflections. Our non-fiction focus will be on crafting detailed non-chronological reports to share our knowledge about the Roman Empire.

To develop our descriptive and storytelling skills, we will write vivid setting descriptions of Roman landscapes and create exciting adventure stories set in Roman times — full of action, challenge, and imagination.



Waddington Primary School Autumn in Year 4

Poetry

Poetry helps develop communication and language, as well as developing our listening.

As Authors, we will listen to a range of poems including "Oh! The Places You'll Go" By Dr Suess and "Chocolate Cake" by Michael Rosen.



Maths

Working as mathematicians

We will begin the term by reviewing column addition and subtraction, building confidence in using formal written methods. We will deepen our understanding of place value by working with numbers up to 10,000, comparing, ordering, and rounding.

This term, we will also develop fluency and reasoning in multiplication, focusing on the 3, 6, and 9 times tables, followed by exploring the 7 times table and identifying patterns within and across times tables.

We will speak like mathematicians, using accurate vocabulary to explain our thinking and show our understanding using manipulatives and pictorial representations.



Reading Drive



We are continuously working hard to develop our reading fluency. Our

Reading Drive lessons focus on:

Picture Books

Notable People

Romans

Electricity

Children's Classics

Poetry

Science

Sound

Working as scientists, we investigate how sound is made and how it travels through different materials. Through hands-on experiments, we explore vibrations, volume, and pitch, using scientific vocabulary to describe what we observe and drawing conclusions about how we hear sound.

Electricity

We work scientifically to explore electricity by building simple circuits and testing different materials as conductors or insulators. We will learn how switches work and how to stay safe around electrical items. It's all about asking questions, making predictions, and thinking like

real scientists!

Waddington Primary School

Autumn in Year 4



Artist: Jennifer McGurdy- Diwali Clay Sculptures

As artists, we will explore clay as a medium to create sculptures inspired by Diwali, focusing on decorative patterns and forms. We will study the work of Jennifer McGurdy, learning how she uses flowing shapes and intricate designs, and apply similar techniques in our own creations.

Art

PSHE

This term, pupils will learn how to take care of our mental health and well being which we believe is so important and how to manage risk.

Computing



Title

Computing Systems and Networks

Connecting Computers

Creating Media

Stop Frame Animation

Online Safety

Using Technology Safely



Commando Joe

Sparticus

Spartacus was a famous gladiator who led a major slave uprising against the Roman Empire. Known for his bravery and leadership, he became a symbol of resistance and the fight for freedom.

Music

This term, children will learn to play handbells, developing their sense of rhythm, pitch, and teamwork. They will practise playing simple melodies and perform their work with confidence, showcasing their musical progress in a class performance.

DT

Electrical systems- Circuits and Switches

Working as engineers, we explore how electrical circuits work and how switches control the flow of electricity. We design, make, and evaluate our own systems using knowledge of conductors, insulators, and components. Through hands-on projects, we build technical skills, use accurate vocabulary, and explain our thinking clearly.

PE

Tag Rugby

Fitness

Dance

Ball Skills

RE

- Commitment, Promises and Meaning
- How do people welcome new life into the world?
- How do people show their commitment to a religion?



Experience Days

- 1.10.26 Dance Workshop
- 5.10.26 Maths Workshop
- 19.11.26 Author Talk (Martin Howard)
- 11.12.26 Online Safety Workshop
- 14.11.26 Rocksteady Workshop