

## Year 7 HT1 – The Romans

The Roman period in Britain occurred from 43 AD to 410 AD. During this time, the Roman Empire underwent significant changes and witnessed many major historical events globally. The Romans were an ancient civilization that lived a long time ago. They were known for building a huge empire that stretched across many countries, including parts of Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. The Romans were very clever and advanced in many ways. They built impressive cities with big structures like aqueducts and roads, and they had a strong army that helped protect their empire. They also had great leaders, like Julius Caesar and Emperor Augustus. The Romans loved art, literature, and sports, and they left a lasting impact on the world through their language (Latin), laws, and architecture.

Here are some of the key historical events that were taking place during this time:

1. The Roman Empire - During the time of Roman rule in Britain, the Roman Empire was at its peak, covering most of Europe, North Africa, and Western Asia. The Empire faced several challenges during this period, including wars with the Parthians and the Persians.
2. The Invasion of Britain - The Romans invaded Britain in 43 AD, under the command of Emperor Claudius. This started a 400-year period of Roman rule in Britain. This event falls under the KS2 2014 National Curriculum and is a crucial part of understanding the period.
3. The Boudiccan Revolt - In 60-61 AD, Queen Boudicca led a major uprising against Roman rule. She successfully defeated several Roman armies, but her rebellion was eventually crushed. This event highlights the struggle between the two different cultures and the challenges Rome faced in controlling its empire.
4. The Jewish-Roman War - In 66-73 AD, the Jews rebelled against Roman rule, leading to a major war that lasted several years. The war culminated in the siege of Jerusalem in 70 AD, leading to the destruction of the Second Temple. This event is important both in its own right and as it led to wider repercussions within the Roman Empire.
5. The Roman Civil War - In 68-69 AD, the Year of the Four Emperors, a civil war broke out in Rome after the death of Nero. Four different emperors, Galba, Otho, Vitellius, and Vespasian, fought for control of the Empire. Eventually, Vespasian emerged victorious and began the Flavian dynasty, which marked a new era in Roman history.
6. The Fall of the Roman Empire - In the 4th and 5th centuries AD, the Roman Empire began to experience significant economic, military, and political challenges. By 476 AD, Rome had fallen to Germanic tribes, marking the end of the Western Roman Empire. This event had wide-reaching consequences that changed the course of European history.

In conclusion, understanding the historical events that took place during the Roman period is key to understanding the context and significance of this period. It is not only important to focus on the events in Britain, but to also consider the broader historical context and how these events shaped the world we live in today.

### Further reading:

Fiction:

Roman Diary by Richard Platt - A fictional journal of a young girl living in Rome during AD 107. It provides an insightful glimpse into the life of an ordinary Roman citizen.

Non fiction:

Roman Britain by Andrew Langley - A detailed account of life in Roman Britain, from the invasions of Julius Caesar to the fall of the Roman Empire. It covers Roman architecture, technology, society, and culture in Britain.