



## St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School -Beech Class

### Early Civilisations-Overview

Gospel Value  
Joy

**What I should know already**-The early Stone Age people were hunter-gatherers. The Stone Age created their own cave art. Primary sources of evidence (bones, tools) can tell us about Stone Age lives. Skara Brae was a Stone Age village. There are mysteries about Stonehenge. Bronze replaced stone and is extracted by heating stone. Grave goods were items that were buried with someone when they died. Iron replaced bronze as the main metal for tools for weaponry. Iron age people (sometimes called Celts) built hillforts for themselves where they could live and farm. People who lived in the Iron Age left behind many elaborate pieces of jewellery, weapons or pottery.

#### Timeline

##### **Circa 5000 BCE to 2000 BCE**

Ancient Sumer

**Circa 3200 BCE to 1500 BCE** The Indus Valley

**Circa 3100 BCE to 400 BCE** Ancient Egypt

##### **Circa 1600 BCE to 1046 BCE**

The Shang Dynasty

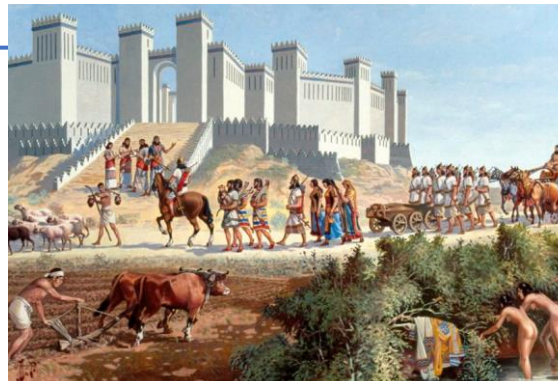
**Circa 2000 BCE to 1697 CE** The Mayan Civilisation

**Circa .800 BCE to 30 BCE** Ancient Greece

**Circa 500 BCE to 200 CE** Ancient Rome

#### Key Knowledge

- Once people had started farming, settlements began to be developed in some parts of the world. Some of these settlements turned into villages, which then turned into towns, which then developed into advanced cities.
- One thing that all early civilisations had in common was that they grew up around rivers.
- The first people to invent writing were the Sumerians.
- People started trading once they had settled in permanent settlements and this may be why writing developed to keep track of goods.
- Each early civilisation developed their own number system.
- One of the earliest technologies was the wheel.
- People moved on from living in caves and tents to more permanent homes.



#### Key Vocabulary

**Circa** at approximately

**BCE** Before Common Era

**CE** Common Era

**BC** Before Christ

**AD** Anno Domini (Latin for "in the year of the Lord")

**Ancient** belonging to the very distant past and no longer in existence.

**Civilisation** a complex human society, usually made up of different cities, with certain characteristics of cultural and technological development

**Trade** the action of buying and selling goods and services.

**Technology** machinery and equipment developed from the application of scientific knowledge.

**Invent** create or design (something that has not existed before)

**River** a large natural stream of water flowing in a channel to the sea, a lake, or another river.

**Artefact**-an object made by a human being, typically one of cultural or historical interest.