Year 4	Christianity in three empires (300-600CE) Medium Term Plan

National Curriculum	Knowledge
Children should be taught about the Roman Empire.	This unit focuses on three cities: Rome, Constantinople and Adulis (in the African empire of Aksum), representing three types of Christianity influenced by and influencing local culture. Stories examine the role of rulers in the spread of Christianity. Narrative as follows: 1.Revisit Christianity in Rome. Persecution etc. Constantine and Battle of Milvian Bridge. Christianity
Children should note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the appropriate use of historical terms.	becoming official religion of Roman Empire. 2.Constantine founding of Constantinople. 3.Fall of Rome in 5th century. Byzantine Empire, including more on Constantinople - confluence of European & Asian influences in art and architecture. 4.Trade in East Africa & links with civilisations already studied. Port of Adulis on the Red Sea. Kingdom of Aksum. 5.Ethiopian Christianity: the rock churches and other cultural artefacts; ongoing importance in world Christianity. 6.Christianity spreads into Africa. Conversion of King Ezana via Eastern (Syrian) Christianity. Recent archaeological finds refining our understanding of early Christianity in Aksum. Disciplinary focus: similarity/difference <i>What made each early Christian state special</i> ?
Lesson Focus	Vocabulary
1. To the lions! Christians in the Roman Empire	three wise men, miracles, forgiveness, rose from the dead, converted, baptized, sins shepherd, persecution, persecute, incense, disloyal, suspicious, amphitheatres, memorial, saint
2. Emperor Constantine makes big changes	official religion, rivals, vision, Byzantium, Byzantine Empire, Constantinople, Asia, harbor, Asian, mosaic
3. The Byzantine Empire carries on	Goths, Huns, Visigoths, Angles, Saxons, Alaric the Goth, sacked, marble, hippodrome, stadium, Justinian code, innocent, Empress Theodora, court, halo, baptismal font
4. An African empire: Aksum	Aksum, plateau, terraces, lowlands, Aduli,s export, ivory, tusks, perfumes, Yemen, mints, court
5. A high and holy place	state, preserve, perilous, hewn, saints, rock -hewn
6. How Aksum became a Christian state	shipwreck, Ezana converted, bishop, patriarch, priests, erected, stela, Professor, illuminated manuscript, Ethiopian Orthodox Church, Roman Catholic Church, Pope, Greek Orthodox Church, epiphany
Synoptic task What made each early Christian state special?	official religion