

## Asterix the Gaul

- Asterix is a French cartoon character, whose adventures have been translated into 107 languages or dialects (including English). The stories were written and illustrated by Rene Goscinny (1926-1977) and Albert Uderzo (1927-2020).
- There are 38 adventures, 11 films and a theme park near Paris. The first book published was 'Asterix the Gaul' in 1961 and the final book was 'Asterix and the Chieftain's Daughter' in 2019.
- Asterix is a Gaul (a tribe similar to the British Celtic tribes) who lives in a village in Normandy around 50 BC. He is small and incredibly brave and gets his strength from a secret magic potion brewed by the tribe's druid.
- He has a very clever little dog called Dogmatix (his name is Idéfix in French) who played an important part in saving Asterix and his friends from being entombed in a pyramid in 'Asterix and Cleopatra'.
- Most of his adventures involve Asterix and his friends battling the Romans (and usually winning!).
- Asterix's best friend is Obelix, who has a 'powerful physique' (don't call him fat!) as a result of him falling into a cauldron of magic potion when he was a little boy. He is not particularly clever, loves eating wild boar (he can eat more than any other member of the tribe) and makes menhirs (standing stones).
- Other tribe members include Vitalstatistix (the tribal chief), Getafix (the tribe's very wise druid who brews the magic potion), Cacofonix (the tribe's tone-deaf poet and bard) and Justforkix (Chief Vitalstatix's nephew who has been sent to the tribe to learn how to be a true Gaulish warrior)

### Some of his adventures include:

- Asterix in Britain – where he helped the British discover tea
- Asterix and Cleopatra – where he, Obelix and Getafix help build a palace and go sight-seeing, leaving their mark on the Sphinx's nose
- Asterix in Belgium - where he helps the Belgians to invent make French fries
- Asterix at the Olympic Games – where he has to compete without the aid of the magic potion (as it is an artificial stimulant)