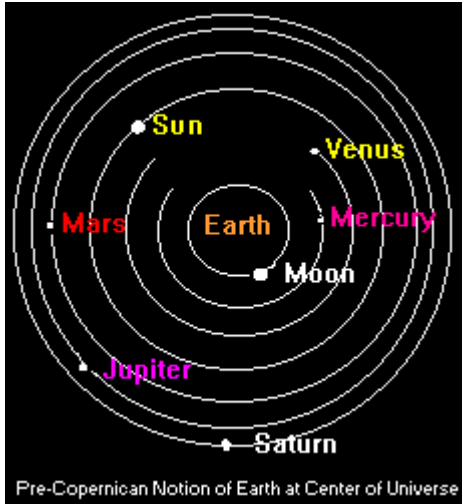


DAY TO DAY

The Babylonians believed that the Sun, Moon or one of five then-known planets ruled the first hour of each day. The Roman names for the days were used until the Romans left Britain and the Anglo-Saxons settled there. The Anglo-Saxons renamed the days and months. These names came from their own gods, goddesses and planets that they worshipped. Today we use a mixture of Roman and Anglo-Saxon day and month names. The king of the Anglo-Saxon gods was Woden, who lived in Asgard, which was like a heaven, where all the heroes went when they died. Over the years the spelling of these names have changed to the names we have today.



Days of the week and the origins of the names

Day	Day number	Roman origin	Anglo-Saxon origin
Sunday	1	Sun	Sun
Monday	2	Moon	Moon
Tuesday	3	Mars	Tiw
Wednesday	4	Mercury	Woden
Thursday	5	Jupiter	Thor
Friday	6	Venus	Frigga
Saturday	7	Saturn	

1. **SUN:** The sun was worshipped by many early civilizations. Later civilizations worshipped gods representing power of the sun. The sun is also the center of the solar system and the largest star, it gives light to the world. Thus the first and most important day was named after the sun.
2. **MOON:** The Moon was worshipped by Romans and Anglo-Saxons. People held festivals for the new moon each month. People thought the Moon god or goddess was evil so people were thought to be driven mad by the light of the full moon. It was bad luck to sleep in moon light.
3. **MARS:** Mars was believed to help the Romans in times of need, especially when going to battle. This was because he was the father of the founders of Rome and so he was their ancestor. Mars was the Roman god of war. It was common for Mars to be angry and violent because he was the god of war.
4. **TIW:** Tiw was the Anglo-Saxon god of war, courage and the sword. He was believed to be a wise and great warrior. He was always fighting great battles.
5. **MERCURY:** Mercury was the god of eloquence, games of chance, commerce and story telling. He was also the messenger for all the other gods. He wore a winged helmet on his head and was the son of Jupiter.
6. **WODEN:** Woden was the Anglo-Saxon chief of all the gods. He was the god of wisdom, knowledge and poetry. It was believed that Woden made the earth from oak and elm trees. He was the wisest god. According to legends, he gave up an eye to be able to drink from the well of knowledge. Thus he could see everything and would always know what everyone was doing. He was thought of as a powerful magician, sorcerer and healer, and so when the Anglo-Saxons became Christians they called him Woden the devil.
7. **JUPITER:** Jupiter was known as the ruler of Heaven and Earth and of all the gods. Hera was Jupiter's wife and she became very jealous of other women and goddesses who Jupiter paid attention to. Jupiter was also the god of thunder and so is often painted as a man sitting on a throne with a sceptre in his left hand and thunderbolts in his right hand. The sceptre is a sign of kingship.

8. **THOR:** Thor was a very powerful Anglo-Saxon god. Some legends say that he was the son of Woden while others talk about him being older and more powerful. Thor was the god of thunder and brought rain to water the crops. People also made sacrifices to him to ask for good weather during long sea voyages. Thor had a hammer called Mjolner, which they believed caused thunder when he beat it against his anvil.
9. **VENUS:** Venus was known as the Romans goddess of love and beauty. She had a sweet face that was always smiling, a perfect figure and pure features. She was known for her innocent grace.
10. **SATURN:** Saturn was the god of sewing or seed. He was an ancient god and the king until Jupiter dethroned him. Saturn was believed to be the god of misfortune. He was thought to be unlucky, and is usually drawn as a black man dressed fully in black. The Romans held a large festival for Saturn in December to mark the beginning of the Winter solstice. At this time the Romans prayed to him to ask for protection for the crops during winter.
11. **FRIGGA:** Frigga was the goddess of love and fertility. She was the wife of the ruler of the god, Woden, as well as the goddess of the sky and clouds. It was believed that she knew everyone's destiny, but never unveiled it. She did, however, spread some of her knowledge to make justice. Frigga also had a messenger whose name was Gna who rode through the sky on a horse.

Months of the year and their origins			
Month	Number of Days	Roman origin	Anglo-Saxon origin
January	31	Janus	Wolf
February	28/ 29	Februus/ Februa	Kale/ Lent
March	31	Mars	Stormy
April	30	Aperire	Easter
May	31	Maia Majesta	Three Milkings
June	31	Juno	Sera
July	31	Julius Caesar	Meadow
August	31	Augustus Caesar	Weed
September	30	Seventh	Barley
October	31	Eighth	Winter
November	30	Ninth	Wind
December	31	Tenth	Yule/ Winter

1. **JANUS:** Janus is a Roman god. Janus has two faces which, according to the Romans, enables him to see into the year that has passed as well as looking forward into the next year. He is the spirit of opening
2. **FEBRUUS / FEBRUA:** Februus is the Roman god of purification. A februa is a musical instrument played at festivals that occurred at this time of the year.
3. **APERIRE:** Aperire is the Latin word for opening. April is when winter gays ended and flower buds open again
4. **MAIA MAJESTA:** Maia is a Greek goddess. However May could be named after the Italian goddess Maia Majesta, she was the goddess of spring. Italians would make sacrifices to her in hope that their crops would grow well.
5. **JUNO / JUNIUS:** Juno was the head of all Roman gods. Juno was responsible for all the women, because of this June is considered as a good month in which to get married. It is also believed that June is named after Junius, a Roman tribe.
6. **JULIUS CAESAR:** Julius Caesar was a Roman king. He reigned for many years but he was murdered. July was originally called Quintilius because the Roman calendar originally had 10 months.
7. **AUGUSTUS CAESAR:** August was originally called Sextilis because it was the sixth month in the old Roman Calendar. It was then changed to August, after Augustus Caesar.
8. **SEPTEM=SEVEN:** The Ancient Roman calendar had only ten months. September was the seventh month.
9. **OCTO=EIGHT:** The Ancient Roman calendar had only ten months. October was the eighth.
10. **NOVEM=NINE:** The Ancient Roman calendar had only ten months. November was the ninth.
11. **DECEM=TEN:** The Ancient Roman calendar had only ten months. December was the tenth.

RESOURCES:

Paul Hughes(1985) *The Months of the Year* Young Library Limited
 Paul Hughes(1985) *The Days of the Week* Young Library Limited