Founder of Pythagoreanism: Pythagoras was an ancient Greek philosopher and mathematician born on the island of Samos around 570 BCE. He is best known for founding the Pythagorean school, a philosophical and religious movement that greatly influenced ancient Greek thought.

Secretive Society: The Pythagorean school was a secretive and exclusive community. Its members, known as Pythagoreans, followed strict rules and rituals, and the school had a unique way of life focused on moral and spiritual principles, as well as the pursuit of knowledge.

Pythagorean Theorem: Pythagoras is famous for the Pythagorean theorem, a fundamental principle in geometry. The theorem states that in a right-angled triangle, the square of the length of the hypotenuse (the side opposite the right angle) is equal to the sum of the squares of the lengths of the other two sides.

Numerology and Mysticism: Pythagoras believed in the mystical and divine properties of numbers. He viewed numbers as the building blocks of the universe and assigned specific meanings and symbolism to them. This belief in numerology greatly influenced the Pythagoreans' approach to mathematics and philosophy.

Transmigration of Souls: Pythagoras and his followers believed in the transmigration of souls, the idea that the soul undergoes a cycle of reincarnation after death, moving from one body to another. This belief was central to their moral and ethical teachings.

Music and Mathematics: Pythagoras believed in the harmony of the spheres, the idea that the planets and celestial bodies produce musical sounds as they move in their orbits. He saw a deep connection between music and mathematics, viewing music as a way to understand the order and harmony of the cosmos.

Mathematical Discoveries: Beyond the Pythagorean theorem, Pythagoras and his followers made significant contributions to mathematics. They explored the properties of numbers, geometric shapes, and the concept of irrational numbers, a groundbreaking discovery attributed to the study of the diagonal of a square.

Influence on Plato: Pythagorean ideas and beliefs had a profound influence on Plato, another great philosopher of ancient Greece. Plato adopted some of the Pythagoreans' views on the nature of reality, the importance of mathematics, and the pursuit of knowledge.

Political Activities: Pythagoras and the Pythagoreans were politically engaged, seeking to promote their philosophical ideals in the political sphere. However, their involvement in politics eventually led to tensions and conflicts with the ruling authorities in various cities, and the Pythagorean school was suppressed in some regions.

Mysterious and Legendary Figure: Due to the secretive nature of the Pythagorean school and the lack of written records from Pythagoras himself, much of his life and teachings are shrouded in mystery and legends. Many stories and anecdotes about Pythagoras have been passed down through generations, making it challenging to separate historical facts from myth. Nonetheless, his intellectual and philosophical legacy continues to influence mathematics, science, and philosophy to this day.