

The Anglo Saxons and Vikings- Year 4 knowledge Organiser- Spring Term

401- 410 CE	The Romans withdraw from Britain: Anglo-Saxon migrants begin to settle
497 CE	The Kingdom of Wessex is formed
575 CE	The Kingdom of East Anglia is formed
586 CE	The Kingdom of Mercia is formed
597 CE	St Augustine introduces Christianity
757 CE	Offa King of Mercia declares himself king of England
793 CE	Vikings attack Lindisfarne
871 CE	Alfred the Great rules
1016 CE	Canute the Great rules as first Viking
1066 CE	The Battle of Hastings: the Normans defeat the Saxons.

Key Figures:

St Augustine (c530-604): Augustine of Canterbury was a Christian missionary sent from Rome to convert people from Anglo-Saxon Paganism to Christianity. Considered to be responsible for the widespread adoption of the Christian faith throughout England.

King Aethelbert (c550-616): King of Kent who created the first Germanic law code in the early 7th Century and became the first English King to convert to Christianity due to Augustine's mission to convert people from Paganism.

King Offa (c730-796): King of Mercia and of most of England in the mid-8th Century. Historians regard him as the most powerful Anglo-Saxon King until Alfred the Great.

King Alfred the Great (c849-899): Fought the Vikings and defeated them in the battle of Edington (878) and then made an agreement with them (Danelaw). He was known for improving the standard of living, education and legal and military systems.



Key Vocabulary:

Conquer: Get something by force.

Danelaw: The area in Britain the Vikings ruled.

Lindisfarne: A monastery in northern England where Vikings first landed and attacked from Scandinavia.

Massacre: Killing of many people.

Monastery: A building where people worship and devote their time to God

Missionaries: People sent to promote religions, especially Christianity

Pagan: A person who believes in many gods.

Runes: Viking letters of the alphabet.

Scandinavia: This area is made up of Denmark, Sweden and Norway.

Settlement: A place where people have come to live

Viking Longship: A ship used by Vikings for raids (surprise attacks).

General Knowledge:

Where did the Anglo-Saxons come from?

The Romans left Britain in 410 CE due to fierce tribes attacking Italy and every soldier was needed back at home to defend the country. Without an army of its own, it left the country vulnerable to attackers. The Anglo-Saxons came from Denmark, Netherlands and northern Germany across the North Sea in wooden boats. They conquered England but failed to conquer Scotland, Wales and Cornwall (an area of south-west England).

The Vikings

The Vikings were under constant attack from Vikings who travelled from Scandinavia and invaded towns and villages in England, Scotland and the Isle of Man, finally conquering York (Jorvik) in 866. They finally defeated the Anglo-Saxons as the Normans (Norsemen) from Normandy (France) invaded and won the Battle of Hastings in 1066. The Normans in France were originally Vikings from Scandinavia!