

Anglo-Saxons and Vikings — Our Local Area

Vocabulary

The Scots

- The Scots came from Ireland to settle in Scotland.
- The Scots began raiding Britain around AD 360 and later settled in the west

Anglo-Saxons

- Anglo-Saxons began arriving around AD 410 after the Romans left.
- The Anglo-Saxons came from modern-day Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands.
- Anglo-Saxons were made up of three main tribes: Angles, Saxons and Jutes.
- These tribes settled in different regions and were not united under one ruler at first.
- These tribes invaded Britain after the Romans left; some were invited to help d Picts and Scots, others wanted farmland.
- They faced challenges such as conflict with locals, building homes, farming an new land.

Anglo-Saxon Life

- Homes were made from wood and thatch, unlike Roman stone towns.
- Society had different social classes: kings, nobles, craftsmen and peasants.
- Their laws were based on customs and village courts.
- Punishments included fines (wergild), compensation or physical punishments.
- There was no national legal system; Alfred the Great introduced written codes to make laws more consistent across Wessex.

of Scotland.	colonisation	setting up control over new lands/people
	peasantry	the class of poor farmers who worked the land
	wergild	a fine paid as compensation for injury or death in Anglo-Saxon law
	outlawed	someone who has had their property taken away is no longer able to live in their community
defend against	Danelaw	area of England under Viking control
nd adapting to	Thing	Viking meeting, where free men made laws and settled dispute
	invade	enter and occupy land
	outlawed	someone who has had their property taken away is no longer able to live in their

pillage

raid

turning point

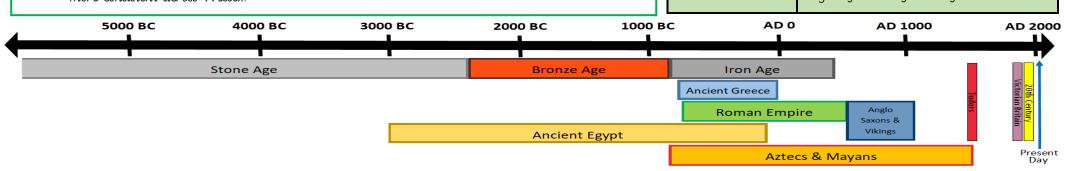
communitu

violently steal something

to launch a surprise attack

(e.g. Alfred's defence reforms)

an event that leads to important change





Burwell Village College Primary

Sutton Hoo & Devil's Dyke

- Sutton Hoo was discovered in 1939, by Basil Brown, who was commissioned by Edith Pretty.
- It is the site of an Anglo-Saxon ship burial the richest ever found in northern Europe.
- Treasures included a helmet, a gold buckle and a ceremonial sword.
- The finds proved that the Anglo-Saxons had wealth, trade links, craftsmanship and beliefs in the afterlife — which challenged the idea of the 'Dark Ages'.
- 'Burh' means fort.
- 'Wella' means spring/water.
- Burwell means 'Spring by the fort'.
- Devil's Dyke is a large Anglo-Saxon earthwork defence in East Anglia.
- It helped to protect East Anglia from Mercia.



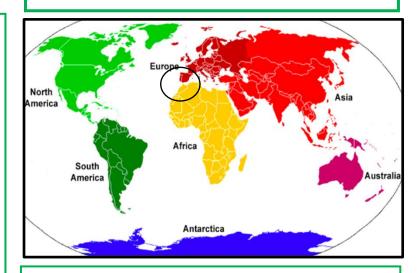






Do you notice
any similarities
between the
regions of
England today
and the
kingdoms of the
Anlgo-Saxons?

Anglo-Saxons and Vikings



The Vikings

- Vikings came from Scandinavia (Norway, Sweden, Denmark).
- They raided Britain for wealth, land and power.
- The first raid was on Lindisfarne (793 AD).
- The Vikings established the Danelaw Viking-controlled land in England.
- Their laws were made in local assemblies called Things.
- Punishments included fines, outlawry (banishment) or trial by combat.
- Vikings did not wear horned helmets.

King Alfred the Great and the Viking ruler, Guthrun, signed a peace treaty which divided England between Anglo-Saxon and Viking areas.

