

During this half term our enquiry is:

How did the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings shape Britain?

Through this enquiry, children will explore how Britain changed after the Romans left in AD 410 and how the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings shaped the country we know today. They will learn why the Anglo-Saxons settled in England, investigate the seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, and discover how Northumbria became one of the most powerful kingdoms. Children will explore how the Anglo-Saxons changed from pagan beliefs to Christianity, examining how churches, monasteries, books and learning transformed Britain. They will learn about the importance of Lindisfarne and Jarrow, and how Christian beliefs influenced laws, customs and daily life.

To enhance our learning, we will visit **Jarrow Hall**, where children will experience life in Anglo-Saxon Northumbria and learn about the legacy of Saint Bede. As historians, they will investigate artefacts from the Sutton Hoo burial to uncover clues about Anglo-Saxon beliefs, status and identity. The children will then study the Vikings, exploring why they came to Britain and how they established the Danelaw. They will compare Anglo-Saxon and Viking life and examine the impact of significant rulers, including Alfred the Great, Athelstan, the first King of England, and Edward the Confessor. The enquiry will conclude with children reflecting on the lasting impact of the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings on Britain's culture, religion, laws and identity.

Read through the attached knowledge organiser with your child and check they understand the content. You could ask them to explain it to you – 'teaching' you helps them to reinforce their own learning. Quiz facts out of order to check children really know the fact and have not just memorised the order on the page! Follow their own lines of enquiry and questions to discover even more!

Subject	Activities / areas to be covered in school	Possible learning at home
English	In English, we will begin the half term by exploring the Anglo-Saxon tale Beowulf. Children will focus on writing to entertain, creating a detailed third-person character description of Beowulf using ambitious vocabulary and descriptive language. As an exciting outcome, they will use AI technology to create images based on their descriptions. Alongside our DT learning, where we will bake Anglo-Saxon bread, children will write both formal and informal instructions for making bread, adapting their language for different audiences. Using knowledge gained from our history enquiry and visit to Jarrow Hall, children will then research and write a non-chronological report about Anglo-Saxon life. Throughout the half term, they will continue to develop their reading, comprehension and vocabulary through a range of texts linked to the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. <u>Grammar and Punctuation</u>	• Read widely and often at home. I wonder if you have read a legend before. I wonder if you can find out what makes a story a legend and why they have stood the test of time and are still shared today. • The Anglo-Saxons were known to enjoy creating riddles for entertainment. Have you heard any riddles? I wonder if you could share one with our class to see if we can work out the answer. • Ask your child to share their understanding of different verbs and nouns. Can they identify any in their reading at home?

	This half term, we are excited to be learning the 'Place Value of Punctuation and Grammar' where the children will focus on identifying and understanding a range of topics, including: Common and proper nouns, Collective and partitive nouns, Being verbs and "to have, Regular action verbs and verb phrases, and Irregular action verbs and verb phrases. We will be using this understanding to help secure our sentence building before moving our writing on in Upper Key stage 2!	
Maths	In maths, we will be focusing on place value to 1 million this half term. This will involve being able to read, write and partition numbers to one million as well as being able to order and compare them. They will also be rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1000, 10000 and 100000. They will also learn to read roman numerals up to 1000. Every week, children will also be completing fluency/arithmetic lessons focusing on developing quick mental strategies to answer a range of calculations. During the half term there will be a range of problem-solving lessons and opportunities in each lesson to apply their knowledge.	• Try reading numbers you see around you in words and identifying the place value of each digit. • Explore the BBC Bitesize website all about Roman numerals. Have a go at some of the quizzes! Roman numerals to 1000 - KS2 Maths - Year 5 - BBC Bitesize • Notice different contexts where Roman numerals are used.
Science	In science this half term, we will be learning about forces. The children will learn about the effects of gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction. Children will also be completing investigations each week as part of a team, each with a specific role. We will be having a particular focus on the skills of working scientifically where they will test their own ideas.	• BBC bitesize offers some great videos and information when looking at forces in science. Check it out here: • https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znmmn39 • Can you think of any forces that you come across in everyday activities? What is their impact on you or the things around you?
Computing	In computing, the children will develop their understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between systems and devices. They will consider small-scale systems as well as large-scale systems and explain the input, output, and process aspects of a variety of different real-world systems. Additionally, the children will discover how information is found on the World Wide Web, through learning how search engines work and through comparing different search engines.	• Explore different search engines with your child to discover that some search engines provide different results. • Recap safety online and the importance of safely searching for information. • Challenge your child to log all of their online activity over a week, then identify any activities that they needed to apply their knowledge of online safety to.
Physical Education	This half term, Year 5 will take part in PE on Thursdays and Fridays. For school PE sessions, the children will need to arrive to school in their school PE kit for these days only unless they are informed of any changes to the timetable. On a Thursday afternoon, the children will take part in indoor PE which is gymnastics. On a Friday	• What are your favourite sports? • I wonder if you can set yourself a physical challenge to help you keep fit and healthy this half term. • How does exercise make you feel? Consider how you feel

	afternoon, the children will take part in outdoor PE which is tag rugby. Please ensure that the children have outdoor footwear and weather appropriate clothing as this lesson will take place on the school field.	before, during and after physical activity. Can your child recall some of the key gymnastic shapes: Tuck Shape, Pike Shape, Straddle Shape, Standing Straight, Star Shape, Dish Shape, Arch Shape?
PSHCE	In PSHE, children will explore how to make healthy lifestyle choices by learning about nutrition, food labels and the factors that can influence the foods we eat. They will develop an understanding of the importance of a balanced and positive relationship with food, as well as the benefits of regular physical activity for both physical and mental wellbeing. Children will also learn to recognise and communicate their feelings, reflect on their responses to different situations, and identify trusted adults and services that can provide support for mental health and wellbeing.	Ask your child to keep a simple Healthy Choices Diary for one week. They could record: - One healthy food choice they made each day. - One form of physical activity they took part in. - How they felt after being active. - One thing they did to support their wellbeing or manage their feelings.
Religious Education	In RE lessons this half term, we will consider how Christianity came to Britain. We will learn about The Venerable Bede and how he influenced the growth of Christianity as well as learning about St Cuthbert and the influence he had throughout the Anglo-Saxon and Viking times. We will be exploring how and why Christianity spread throughout Britain at this time and will learn about other Saints who were integral in bringing Christianity to Britain throughout the Anglo Saxon and Viking civilizations.	- Use this website to discover the beliefs of the Anglo Saxons before Christianity: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm/articles/zs3gcgm - Then, explore Viking beliefs. https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/vikings/religion_01.shtml - What is the same and what is different?
Art	This half term, we will be embarking on a sculptural challenge to make some supersized jewellery. The children will begin with research and observational drawing of a range of different types of jewellery. They will then take this to create a range of interesting designs before moving on to create their favourite. They will use Modroc to create the base for their sculptures before adding other materials and paint to create their finished products.	The children may want to look closely at pieces of jewellery at home, paying close attention to colours, shapes and how the jewellery is put together. They may also want to complete more observational drawing to support them with their ideas.
Music	This term, children in Class 9 will take part in Rock Choir sessions delivered by Durham Music Service. They will develop their singing skills by learning a range of contemporary songs, focusing on pitch, rhythm, breathing and performance techniques. Children will also learn how to sing as part of an ensemble, building confidence, teamwork and musical expression while preparing pieces for performance.	C9 - Practise one of the songs learned in Rock Choir and share it with a family member or friend. Children could also research a favourite singer or band and create a short fact file about their musical style, performances and achievements.

	In Class 10, children will explore how music can be written down using standard notation, learning about note values, rests and pitch. Children will compose and perform their own musical pieces, experimenting with rhythm and melody while developing their understanding of how composers record and communicate musical ideas. They will have opportunities to listen, evaluate, create and perform music with increasing confidence and creativity.	C10 - Create a short piece of music using simple musical notation. Children could compose a rhythm or melody using the note values they have learned and perform it to someone at home.
Geography	As geographers, the children use an atlas to look at the UK and identify present-day locations within the Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms, referring to these when discovering facts within history. With the introduction of the Vikings in history, children will revisit their maps of the UK to identify where they successfully invaded, looking at the area of Danelaw.	With your child, research where some of the famous Anglo-Saxon locations are. Locate them on a UK map and use this information to plot your famous Anglo-Saxon locations on your own outline of Britain. You could then clearly label them on your map. Famous locations could include: Sutton Hoo, Staffordshire Hoard, Lewis Chessmen, Lindisfarne Gospels, Sandbach Crosses, West Stow etc.
History	In history, the children will learn how the Anglo Saxons, in AD 450, and Vikings, in AD 793, came to live in Britain. They will identify the differences between raiders, invaders and settlers and discuss the roles of both civilizations. Children will explore the development of Anglo Saxon and Viking ways of life, looking at settlements, society and religion, and make comparisons throughout their learning. They will discuss the reliability of primary and secondary sources which historians use to inform our knowledge of past civilizations and, as archaeologists, children will analyse artefacts to interpret the identity of an Anglo Saxon. Using timelines, children will exhibit the constant struggle between the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings for control over Britain. Underpinning the enquiry, the children will be identifying what the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings left behind which has helped to shape Britain today.	The Anglo-Saxon period is often named, 'The Dark Ages'. I wonder if you can explore the reason for this? Find out where Anglo-Saxon settlements were in the north and any connections with Darlington. Find out more about how the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings lived – including what they wore, ate etc. Discover why Viking longboats were so important and successful?
Design and Technology	In design and technology this half term, the children will learn all about Anglo-Saxon foods. They will explore different bread recipes and improve recipes using spices and herbs. The main skill during DT this half term will be 'kneading'. They will evaluate the end product against given criteria.	Encourage your child to follow a recipe at home and help out with the cooking of a meal? (This should be done with adult supervision and support.) Explore recipes which include spices and herbs. Discuss how they change and improve the taste. Practise kneading with playdough, modelling clay or dough - Homemade pizzas would be a fun way to practise this skill!

French	In French, children will begin the term by revisiting key phonics skills, helping them to improve their pronunciation and confidence when speaking French. They will recap previously taught sounds and sound patterns before moving on to practise numbers 21-31 and consolidate their knowledge of colours through a range of speaking, listening, reading and writing activities. Children will continue to build their confidence in using simple French vocabulary and phrases in everyday contexts.	Count in French together and identify colours of familiar items in French. Create a colourful French Numbers and Colours Poster.
Homework	Each week, the children will receive homework on a Friday. This should be returned to school the following Friday. <u>Reading</u> - All children will have a <u>reading record</u>. The expectation is that children in year 5 read for a sustained period of time each night and really ‘get into a good book’. Their reading record should be returned to school each Friday to be checked by a member of staff who will change reading books when needed. - Although many children in year 5 are fluent readers and are likely to be reading independently by this age, parents/carers still need to hear them read out loud to develop their fluency and expression in more challenging texts. <u>Spelling</u> - Each week, the children will learn and focus on a spelling rule or word(s) from the year 5/6 statutory word list. Children will have spelling activities as part of their homework - this will be in preparation for a spelling test each Friday. <u>Maths</u> - Maths homework will focus on children’s fluency skills and will be linked to the week’s learning. The children should be familiar with the style of questions on the homework and use this as an opportunity to practice and rehearse their skills. In year 5 we aim to get the balance right and work with parents to best prepare children for the expectations of each stage of learning. It is worth noting that getting children into the habit of regular homework prepares them for the demands of secondary school. If a child in year 5 does not complete the homework set on a regular basis the child will be expected to complete it in their own time. We expect everyone to be treated equally and all children are required to complete homework. Class teachers are available to support and help children with their homework if they are stuck or unsure – please do not hesitate to ask.	