St Francis CEP School History

Unit: Vikings and Anglo-Saxons

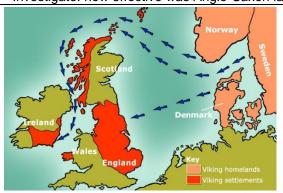
Year group: Year 6

What should I already know?

- Chronology of British history.
- Reasons why people invaded and settled in Britain – Romans and Anglo-Saxons.
- Anglo-Saxon kingdoms.
- St Aiden's conversion of the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity at Lindisfarne.
- Hierarchy of society.

Historical skills and enquiry

- Chronology of the Anglo-Saxon Viking struggle for power.
- Investigation were the Vikings really that vicious?
- Investigate was Alfred the Great really so great?
- Investigate: how effective was Anglo-Saxon law?



from Britain

What will I find out by the end of the unit?

• First recorded raid by Vikings was 787AD Raided churches and monasteries.

The monks had no weapons and the buildings were filled with valuable treasures, like gold, jewels and books. Raided the monastery in Lindisfarne set up by St. Aidan.

- In AD865 an army of Vikings sailed across the North Sea to conquer land rather than just raid it.
- Over several years the army battled through northern England, taking control of the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms of Northumbria, East Anglia and most of Mercia.
- By AD 875 most kingdoms had fallen except for Wessex which was ruled by King Alfred the Great.
- Alfred made a peace agreement with the Vikings called 'Danelaw'.
- Danelaw was an imaginary dividing line was agreed to run across England, from London in the south towards Chester in the North West. The Anglo-Saxon lands were to the west and the Viking lands were roughly to the east.
- Viking families lived in a longhouse made from wood with a thatched roof. Many were farmers or craftsmen.
- Vikings had a hierarchical society:

King – most powerful person.

Jarl – wealthy Vikings who were rich noblemen or traders. Karl – everyday people.

Thrall – slaves and did the hardest dirtiest jobs but could earn money to buy their freedom.

Vocabulary	
settlement	a place where a group
	of people create a
	community
invader	people who attack a
	country
settler	people who moves with
	a group to a new
	country
hierarchy	a way of organising
	people into levels of
	importance
Danegeld	money given by
	Ethelred the Unready to
	the Vikings to stop them
	from invading
monasteries	building occupied by a
	community of monks
	living under religious
	vows
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How great was Alfred the Great?



516. Battle of Mount Badon. The Britains 410. The Roman fight back against the invaiders, possibly army withdraws led by King Arthur.

731. Bede finishes his 'Ecclesiastical History of the English People'

866. The Vikings capure York and make it their kingdom

886. King Alfred defeats the Vikings but allows them to settle in north & eastern Britain - the Danelaw.

1066. Harold of Wessex becomes King, but later that year Normans attack and win the Battle of Hastings.

450. Angles, Jutes and Saxons are settling in Britain and creating their own Kingdoms.

597. St Augustine brings Christianity to England from Rome

793. Vikings from Denmark attack Lindisfarne

871 Alfred (the Great) becomes King of Wessex

927. King Alfred's randson Aethelstan wins the Battle of Brunanburh and becomes the first King of all England.

1016.King Cnut of Denmark captures the English crown