

Knowledge Organiser



The Anglo-Saxons



Key Concepts:

Chronology

Civilisation

Empire

Legacy

Sticky Knowledge

- The last Roman troops left Britain in 410AD to help defend Rome.
- The Anglo-Saxons were the descendants of three different Germanic peoples: the Angles, the Saxons, and the Jutes.
- The name 'England' comes from the old English name for 'Land of the Angles'.
- Alfred the Great was the leader of the Anglo-Saxon army in the defeat against the Vikings during the Battle of Edington in 878. This is where he introduced the Danelaw.
- Anglo-Saxon Kings made decisions alongside the Witan.
- King Athelstan was the first king of all England, and Alfred the Great's grandson. He reigned between 925 and 939 AD.
- Sutton-Hoo is a site where an Anglo-Saxon burial ground was discovered containing many of the most significant items of evidence for this era.
- Saxon houses were built of wood, with a thatched (straw) roof. The walls could be planked wood or wattle and daub. There was just one big room with a fire, where all the family carried out their daily tasks, ate dinner and slept.

Vocabulary

- **kingdom** – a land ruled by a king or queen
- **descendants** – people born from a specific family or group
- **settlement** – a place where people live and build homes
- **Witan** – a group of advisors to the king from before the 7th century until the 11th century
- **heir** – a person who will inherit something, like a throne, after someone else
- **invasion** – when an army enters and takes over a place
- **Danelaw** – land in England ruled by the Vikings
- **Germanic** – a group of tribes from northern Europe
- **reign** – the time a king or queen rules
- **archaeology** – the study of things from the past, like ancient objects or artefacts