

## River View Primary School



Year 5

Summer 1: Anglo-Saxons and Vikings

Key question: what were the achievements and follies of these civilisations?

### Vocabulary

Ancient civilisation	The first settled and stable communities that became the basis for later states, nations and empires.
Withdraw	Leave or cause to leave a place or situation.
Danelaw	The name given to the part of the country ruled by the laws of the Danes.
Vicious	Deliberately cruel or violent.
Success	The accomplishment of an aim or purpose.
Follies	A foolish act, idea, or practice success
Propaganda	Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view.
Achievements	A thing done successfully with effort, skill, or courage.
Raid	A rapid surprise attack on an enemy downfall a loss of power, prosperity, or status.
Kingdom	A country, state, or territory ruled by a king or queen.
Invade	An armed force enters a country or region to occupy it.
Withstand	Remain undamaged or unaffected by resist.
Settle	Move with a group of others to live in a new country or area.



### Anglo-Saxons

- The last Roman soldiers left Britain in 410. New people came in ships across the North Sea – the Anglo-Saxons. The Anglo-Saxon age in Britain was from around AD410 to 1066. They were a mix of tribes from Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands.
- The three biggest were the Angles, the Saxons and the Jutes. The land they settled in was 'Angle-land', or England. If we use the modern names for the countries they came from, the Saxons were German-Dutch, the Angles were Southern Danish, and the Jutes were Northern Danish.
- Anglo-Saxon children had to grow up quickly. By the time they were ten, they were seen as an adult. This wasn't always a good thing. They had to work as hard as any adult and would be punished as adults, if they stole or broke the law.

### Vikings

- The Viking age in European history was from about AD700 to 1100. During this period many Vikings left their homelands in Scandinavia and travelled by longboat to other countries like Britain and Ireland.
- When the people of Britain first saw the Viking longboats, they came down to the shore to welcome them. However, the Vikings fought the local people, stealing from churches and burning buildings to the ground.
- The people of Britain called the invaders 'Danes', but they came from Norway and Sweden as well as Denmark. The first Viking raid recorded in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle was around AD787. It was the start of a fierce struggle between the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings.

### Alfred the Great

- There were many famous Anglo-Saxon kings, but the most famous of all was Alfred. He was one of the only kings in British history to be called 'Great'.
- His father was king of Wessex, but by the end of Alfred's reign his coins referred to him as 'King of the English'.
- He fought the Vikings and then made peace so that the English and the Vikings settled down to live together. He encouraged people to learn and he tried to govern well and fairly.