

BIRKENHEAD
HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMY
Junior School Vision Statement
GDST

BE: RESPECTFUL
BE: FORGIVING

BE: KIND

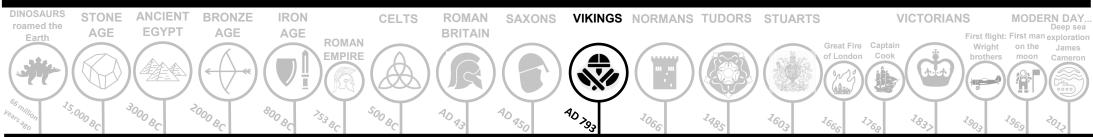
Year 4 - Summer

Unit of work:

The Vikings

Links to other year groups: Y7 Autumn Term Vikings Y11 Autumn Term Vikings

HISTORICAL CONTEXT (within the whole school narrative)



Key Vocabulary:

Danegeld	"Paying the Dane". King Etherlred paid the Vikings 4500kg of silver to go home but they kept returning and were paid 22,000kg of silver in Danegeld altogther.
exile	To be sent away.
invade	To enter and occupy land.
kingdom	An area ruled by a king.
longship	A long, wooden, narrow boat used by the Vikings.
outlawed	Having all property taken away and no longer being able to live in the community.
pagans	A religion where many gods and goddesses are worshipped.
pillaged	To violently steal something.
raid	A surprise attack.
wergild	A payment system used to settle disputes between a criminal and the victim or their family.



Significant People:

Alfred the Great
Edward the Confessor
King Ethelred





Eric Bloodaxe



History Knowledge Organiser

King Cnut

Maps/Diagrams/Artefacts/Key Facts:

The children will learn that the Vikings came from the modern Scandinavian countries of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. They travelled in boats called longships and first arrived in Britain around AD 787. The Vikings raided places such as monasteries and pillaged expensive items to trade. They were looking for valuable goods like gold and jewels, imported foods and other useful materials. They will under-

stand that the Vikings also wanted to claim land and tried to take over much of Britain. They invaded and settled in Scotland before heading south to places such as York. By AD 878 the Vikings had settled permanently in Britain.



The children will timeline the major events of the Viking era, starting with the Lindisfarne raids in 787AD and ending with the Battle of Hastings in 1066. We will examine what life was like as a Viking, living in Britain, including housing, jobs, leisure, religion and travel.

The children will also learn about 'Danegeld' and why paying the Vikings to go away didn't work!

Timeline of Events:

787AD Viking attack on Lindisfarne (the first planned Viking raid).

871AD Alfred the Great becomes king of Wessex.

876AD Guthrum, the new leader of the Vikings attacks Wessex.

878AD Battle at Chippenham. Many of Alfred's men are killed. By this time, the Vikings had settled permanently in England, overran Wessex and forced King Alfred into hiding.

886AD King Alfred agrees to a treaty with the Vikings. Alfred keeps the west and the Vikings are given the east which is later known as 'Danelaw'.

924AD Athelstan becomes the King of Mercia.

928 AD Athelstan retakes York from the Vikings and becomes the first King of England.

1002 AD Aethelred takes revenge on Vikings, orders all Danish men to be killed.

1042 AD Edward becomes King, and becomes known as Edward the Confessor.

1066 AD Battle of Hastings.

Sequence of Lessons	
	Brief summary of lesson content
Lesson 1	Introduction to the Vikings: who they were, why and how they came and what they wanted. An overview of the Viking era of Britain and place on a timeline.
Lesson 2	Lindisfarne Raids
Lesson 3	Danegeld
Lesson 4	Life and Longhouses
Lesson 5	Longships
Lesson 6	Viking Religion and Gods





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