

Y4 Home Learning

Tuesday 21st April 2020

Task 1 English – Yesterday's image was the cover of a book named 'Beowulf'. The story we are going to be learning about is a modern version by Michael Morpurgo. The original manuscript was written as an epic poem, by an anonymous English poet, at least a 1000 years ago! Please read:

Hear, and listen well, my friends, and I will tell you a tale that has been told for a thousand years and more. It may be an old story, yet, as you will discover, it troubles and terrifies us now as much as ever it did our ancestors, for we still fear the evil that stalks out there in the darkness and beyond. We know that each of us in our time, in our own way, must confront our fears and grapple with this monster of the night who, given a chance, would invade our homes, and even our hearts, if he could.

So roll back the years now, back to the fifth century after the birth of Christ, and come with me over the sea to the Norse lands we now know as Sweden and Norway and Denmark, to the ancient Viking lands of the Danes and the Geats, the Angles and the Jutes. This will be our here and now, as this tale of courage and cruelty unfolds, as brave Beowulf battles with the forces of darkness, first with that foul fiend Grendel, then with his sea-hag of a mother, and last of all, with the death-dragon of the deep.



This is Beowulf. Write a character description of his appearance. Include what we already know about his character from the Story introduction.

Task 2 Spelling

believe
bicycle
breath
breathe
build
busy
business

Learn the above spellings and write them in a sentence someone dictates to you.

Task 3 – Reading

Either read your book, select an e-book from Oxford Owl or Bug Club and read for at least 20 minutes.

Task 4 History

Goodbye Romans



Despite the increase in attacks on Britain from the Picts, Scots and Saxons, by around 410AD the last of the Romans had left Britain to go and defend their home territory as they were under increasing threat from external invaders. This meant Britain was left to its own devices for the first time in about 400 years of protection under Roman rule, the British were quite unprepared for fighting!



Vortigern

The British King Vortigern was left in charge after the Roman armies left but he faced great difficulty organising troops to hold back the Picts and Scots who were very powerful and superb fighters. He worried they would take over in Britain.

In a bid to retain control and keep the Picts at bay, it is believed that Vortigern asked two brothers called Hengest and Horsa from Jutland (in modern day Denmark) to come and fight for him and keep the Picts and Scots out.



The Anglo-Saxons

The brothers and their warriors weren't the only ones who had their sights set on colonising Britain. Other Germanic tribes had also been invading Britain for some time, and without Roman protection they proved to be a formidable force against the Brits.

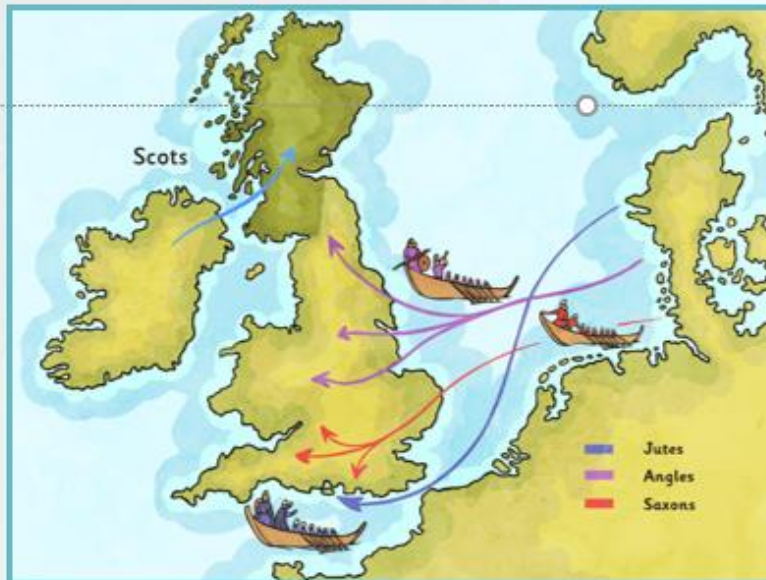
- These invaders are known to us as The Anglo-Saxons because the two biggest invading tribes were the Angles and the Saxons.
- Other invaders were the Jutes, Franks and Frisians. They came from the modern places of Germany, Holland and Denmark.



An Influx of Invaders



Look at this map.



Can you work out:

1. Where the invading troops came from?
2. What they were called?
3. Whereabouts in Britain did they settle?
4. Why did they not manage to take control?



Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms

The British fought hard against the Anglo-Saxons but by about 600AD they had either been forced to escape or had been taken as slaves.

Those who escaped retreated mainly to Wales and Cornwall. The rest of Britain divided into seven kingdoms:

1. Northumbria
2. Essex
3. Wessex
4. Sussex
5. Mercia
6. Kent
7. East Anglia



Character Analysis



Activity

Use the knowledge you have learnt in the lesson and do your very own research to find out more about one of the characters from history, either Vortigern, Hengest or Horsa.

- Decide what they might have looked like and how they would have felt about the events of the time.
- Draw your character and write some details about them.

