

Key Events

787AD	The first Viking raids. The Vikings arrived from Denmark, Norway and Sweden on longboats.
793AD	A planned raid by the Vikings on Lindisfarne, a famous Christian monastery.
871AD	Alfred the Great becomes King of Wessex.
876AD	Guthrum, the leader of the Vikings, invades Wessex.
878AD	Guthrum leads an attack at Chippenham.
927AD	Athelstan takes control of York.
928AD	Athelstan becomes King of England.
937AD	Battle of Brunanburh.
1066AD	Battle of Hastings. King Harold is defeated.

The Battle of Hastings

- In 1066, the King of England, Edward the Confessor, died and Harold Godwinson became King of England.
- William was Duke of Normandy (located in France). He wanted to be the King of England so he planned to invade England.
- King Harold was met in Hastings by William. The Battle of Hastings began and King Harold's men put up a good fight. They used their shields to form a wall.
- King Harold's men were told that William had been killed. This caused the English soldiers to drop their shields.
- However, they were tricked. William soon took off a helmet and revealed that he hadn't been killed.
- King Harold's brothers were killed and King Harold was shot in the eye and killed.
- On Christmas Day in 1066, William was crowned the new King of England.

New Vocabulary

Raid	A surprise attack on an enemy.
Monastery	A place where Monks lived and worshiped.
Pagan	A person who's religious belief is different to the main religions.
Invade	Forcefully entering a place or situation in large numbers.

Life in Viking Britain

- Viking families lived together in longhouses. These were usually built from wood or stone, they would have had a thatched or a turf roof. The house would have had one room, which the family would have shared with their animals.
- Houses wouldn't have had a bathroom. Vikings kept clean by washing outside using a bucket.
- Vikings travelled and brought their families to settle using longships.
- Many Vikings worked as farmers, planting crops and keeping animals.
- Some Vikings were craftsmen and would make the things that people needed to live. Others were woodworkers or leatherworkers, also providing people. They would sell their items at markets.
- At the top of the Viking society was the king. He was the most powerful