

## Year 4 History organiser - Summer Term

Why was King Alfred the Great such a significant figure for Chippenham?

### Key Vocabulary

<b>Angles</b>	Tribes from modern day Denmark.
<b>Picts</b>	Tribes originally from Scotland who were 'foul' and had a 'lust for blood'.
<b>Romans</b>	Romans The Romans invaded and settled in Britain for over 400 years, starting with their first successful raid in 54 BC.
<b>Saxons</b>	German - Dutch tribes who settled in Britain from around 450 AD.
<b>Scots</b>	People from Ireland, who like the Picts, were fierce and powerful fighters.
<b>Settlement</b>	Settlement A place where people decide to live.
<b>Invade</b>	Entering a place to occupy and take over.

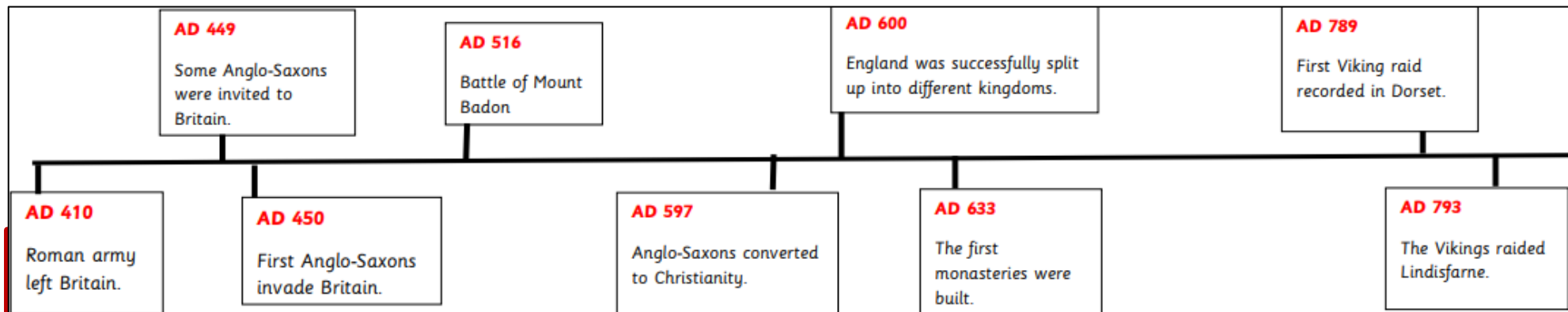
## The Big Picture

- The last Roman soldiers left Britain in 410 AD. Britain no longer had the strong Roman army to defend it from the invaders. New people came in ships across the North Sea: the Anglo-Saxons. The Anglo-Saxon age in Britain was from around 410 AD 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.
- Some Anglo-Saxons were warriors who enjoyed fighting. They thought the Britons were weak and easy to beat without the Romans around. Others came peacefully to find land to farm.
- Anglo-Saxon Britain wasn't ruled by one person and the Anglo-Saxons were not united. They invaded as many different tribes and each took over different parts of Britain



### Who were the Anglo-Saxons and where did they come from?

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<b>King Alfred</b>	King of Wessex (a Saxon kingdom in south-western England). He prevented England from falling to the Danes and promoted learning and literacy.
<b>William the Conqueror</b>	He was the first Norman King of England, reigning from 1066 until 1087. He was Duke of Normandy from 1035 onward. His hold was secure on Normandy by 1060, following a long struggle to establish his throne, and he launched the Norman conquest of England six years later.
<b>Edward the Confessor</b>	The last but one of the Anglo-Saxon kings of England, Edward was known for his religious faith.
<b>Athelstan</b>	Alfred the Great's grandson. He reigned between 925 AD and 939 AD and was they very first 'King of all England'.
<b>King Cnut</b>	(Also known as King Canute) A fierce Danish warrior king who ruled over England between 1016 and 1035.

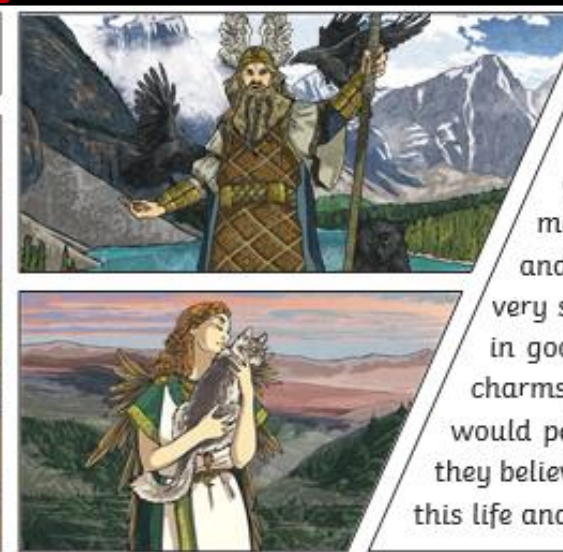
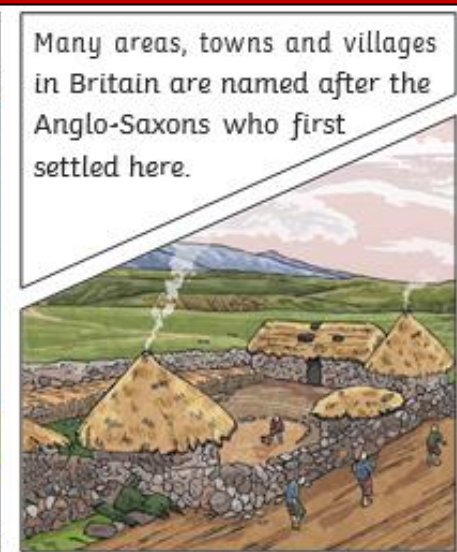
**Villages** - Usually situated by Forests as a source of wood and Rivers/Streams for fresh water. Usually very small- no more than a few hundred people. High fences around the village to keep out enemies/ wild animals. Would have a 'Hall' which would be where the Thane would live and for the warriors.

**Houses** - Made from wood with thatched roofs. Only one room in the house where everyone ate, cooked, slept and entertained their friends. Built facing the sun to get as much heat and light as possible.



## Settlements

## Religion



The early Anglo-Saxons were **Pagans**. They would worship gods during festivals and make sacrifices of objects and animals. They were also very superstitious and believed in good and bad omens, lucky charms, spells and magic. They would perform many rituals that they believed would protect them in this life and the next.

