





# Summer 1: Anglo-Saxon

## Key Vocab and Glossary

- **Angles, Saxons and Jutes:** invaded Britain after the Romans left in AD410. They came across the North Sea in wooden boats from what is now Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. They became known as the Anglo-Saxons
- **Invaders:** people who attack and try to take land from other people
- **Paganism:** the religion of the Anglo-Saxons who believed in many gods
- **Christianity:** the religion of the Romans, based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and a belief in one God
- **Artefacts:** objects from the past that show evidence of what life was like
- **Monastery:** building where Monks live
- **Monks:** members of the male religious community
- **Settlement:** when people join together to start a new community
- **Staffordshire Hoard:** largest hoard of Anglo-Saxon treasure ever found



- **Sutton Hoo:** in 1939, archaeologists discovered an Anglo-Saxon ship burial in Sutton Hoo in Suffolk
- **Danelaw:** the name given to the parts of the country ruled by the laws of the Danes
- **Dark Ages:** usually referring to the first half of the Middle Ages from 500-1000AD, after the fall of the Roman Empire

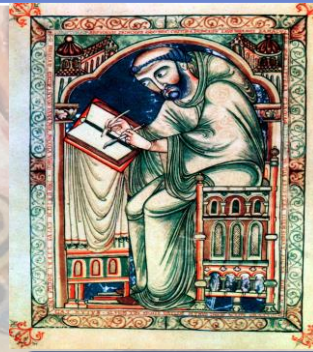
## Anglo Saxon Gods

We get the names of our days of the week from the Anglo-Saxons who named the days after their important gods.

- **Tiw:** god of bravery and fighting (*Tiw's day = Tuesday*)
- **Woden:** the chief of the gods (*Woden's day = Wednesday*)
- **Thunor:** the god of war and thunder (*Thunor's day = Thursday*)
- **Frig:** the goddess of love and beauty (*Frig's day = Friday*)

## Key people

- **King Alfred the Great:** The King of Wessex who became the first king of England (Angle-Land)
- **St Augustine:** a monk who brought Christianity to Britain from Rome
- **Gildas:** a 6<sup>th</sup> century Priest who wrote about the invaders from across the sea who fought their way inland
- **Bede:** A monk who wrote about life in Anglo-Saxon times from the time of the Romans up to the 8<sup>th</sup> century



Large monasteries had a room called a *scriptorium* where the monks copied out religious or educational texts into decorated books known as *manuscripts*. The more elaborate manuscripts had exquisite illustrations known as *illuminations*.



## Useful Links

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm>
- <https://www.britainexpress.com/History/anglo-saxon.life.htm>
- <https://www.staffordshirehoard.org.uk/>
- <https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/galleries/sutton-hoo-and-europe#introduction-to-sutton-hoo>