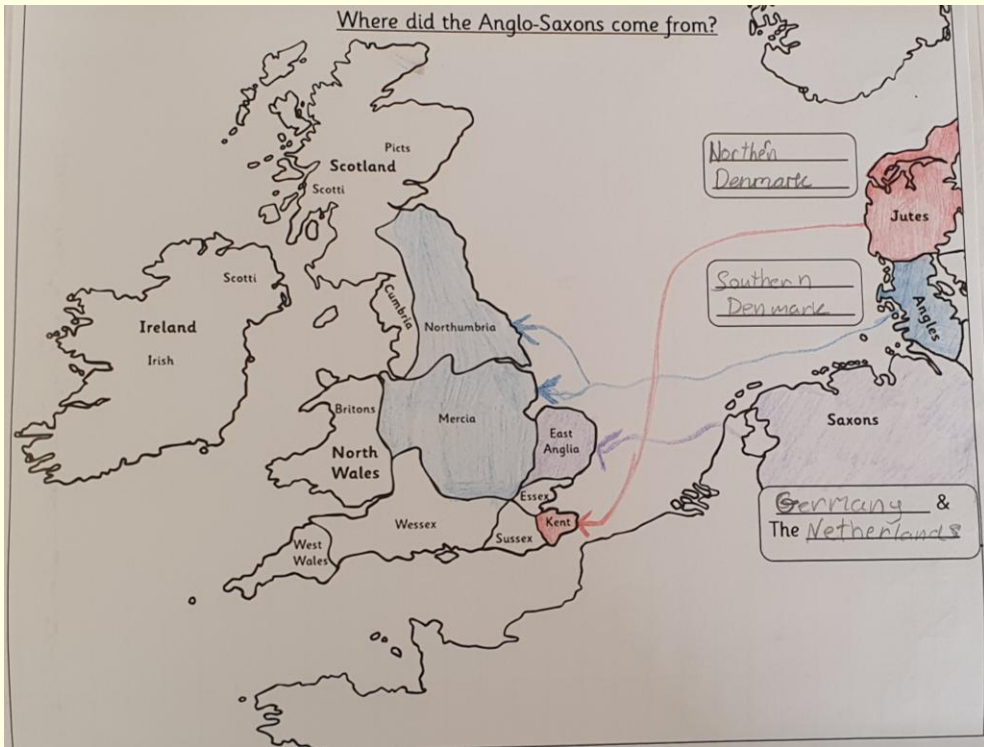


What was the impact of the settlement of the Anglo-Saxons in Britain?

We began our topic by learning why the Angles, Saxons and Jutes (Anglo-Saxons) came to Britain and which areas they came from and settled in.



Friday 6th March 2026

Why did the Anglo-Saxons come to Britain?

Clue	How did this pull the Anglo Saxons to Britain?	How did this push the Anglo Saxons from their countries?
	Britain had lots of good, fertile land for growing crops.	The Anglo-Saxon's land often flooded so crops were difficult to grow.
	The weather in Britain was quite sunny and warm.	The weather in the Anglo-Saxon's countries was cold and harsh.
	The Romans had left Britain. → Rome	The Anglo-Saxon kingdoms were unstable with constant changes of alliance and shifts in power.
	The Anglo-Saxons were invited to Britain by King Vortigern to unite against an enemy.	The Anglo-Saxons were already fighting in their own countries, against other, tough tribes who were difficult to defeat.

was cold and very harsh.
 One factor that pulled the Anglo-Saxons to Britain was that Britain had lots of good fertile land for growing crops.
 Another factor that pulled them was the weather was quite sunny and warm.

One factor that pushed the Anglo-Saxons to leave their countries was the Anglo-Saxon's land often flooded so crops were hard to grow.
 Another factor that pushed them was the weather in the Anglo-Saxon's countries



We then had a trip to Jarrow Hall where we learned about how Anglo-Saxon people lived. We were taught about the different farm animals they had and what they were used for. We discovered what their houses were made from and even experienced Anglo-Saxon entertainment as we were told the story of *Beowulf* by the fire of the great hall!



We learned how the wool from sheep was turned into cloth and even got to try out some of the processes, including carding, spinning and weaving.

We looked at replicas of Anglo-Saxon armour and weapons and found that they were very heavy! We then had a battle as Anglo-Saxons and Vikings!

Back in the classroom, we learned how the seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms got their names and discovered that we still use some of these words in England today. We also explored the Anglo-Saxon origins and meanings of the names of many towns and cities in England, and the similarities between some Old English words and our modern words.

Tuesday 16th March 2026

Anglo-Saxon place names

Place name	Meaning
Northumbria	The 'Kentings' tribe settled here (they were Jutes).
Mercia	Land of people living north of the River Humber. Comes from the Old English word 'mierce' meaning boundary/border. This land was seen as a boundary between British and Anglo-Saxon land.
South East	A southern area of Saxon settlement.
West Saxons	A western area of Saxon settlement.
East Saxons	The Angles first settled here.
East Angles	An eastern area of Saxon settlement.

Place name used today	Anglo Saxon meaning
Woking	The area lived in by Woccc's people.
Osford	A ford for the oxen to cross through.
Birmingham	The village of Beorma's people.
Woolwich	A sheep farm.
Greenwich	A farm with fields.
Cheshire	A cheese farm.
Butterworth	A dairy farm.
Darlington	The village of Deornoth's people.
Alnwick	A farm on the river Aln.
Isleham	A village by the river Ise.
Dudley	A woodland clearing lived in by Dudda's people.
Widderhampton	A village founded by Lady Wulfuna.

Tuesday 17th March 2026

Old English words

Many of the words we use today come from the Anglo-Saxons language of Old English.

Old English words used by the Anglo-Saxons	Modern English words we use today
cild	child
fisc	fish
bera	beer
modor	mother
foda	food
wulf	wolf
treo	tree
hus	house
sunu	son
aepel	apple
faeder	father
waeter	water
cese	cheese
snaw	snow
fyr	fire
dohtor	daughter

Anglo-Saxon gods and goddesses

Name: Thor	Name: Frigg	Name: Tiw	Name: Thunor	Name: Eostre
God of: battle and war	Goddess of: children, Earth & harvest	God of: war	God of: thunder, storms and lightning	Goddess of: spring & rebirth
Special animal: wolf	Special animal: hawk	Special animal: wolf	Special animal: goat	Special animal: hare
Special object: spear	Special object: spinning wheel	Special object:	Special object: oak tree	Special object: hare
Other facts: wooden hut 2 spots called Hagun and Misun. chief of the mighty warlike gods.	Other facts: Frigg is the wife of woden. Her name means 'hidden'.	Other facts: another god of war, he is often seen with one hand.	Other facts: known as the protector of humans against threats. He has a hammer and lightning bolts.	Other facts: associated with rebirth and the spring of eggs - people would try to lay an egg to her for a better harvest.

Augustine was sent from Rome by Pope Gregory to preach Christianity. He arrived in Kent, King Ethelbert was converted and was the first Anglo-Saxon Christian king. He was baptised 10,000 of Kent's people. He was made a Saint in recognition of his success.

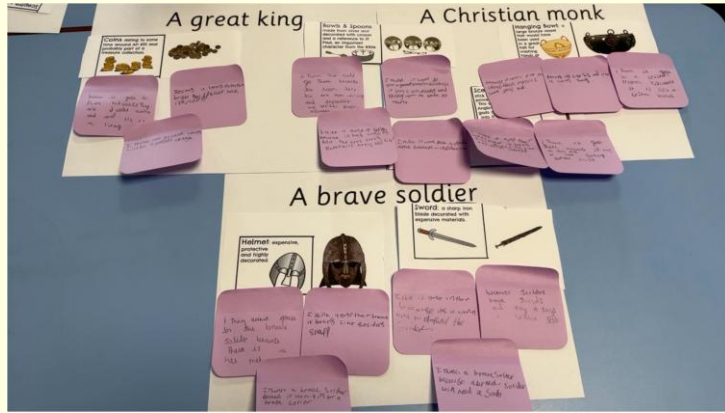
Aidan was a monk from Iona, who was sent to help Oswald. He made a bishopric (King Oswald) and was given an island of Lindisfarne (Holy Island) where he founded a monastery. Aidan's approach was a more ordinary people rather than kings.

Wednesday 25th March 2026

Conversion to Christianity

1. What religion did the Anglo-Saxons follow when they first came to Britain?
Paganism
2. Why did Pope Gregory the Great from Rome send Augustine to Britain in 597AD?
To teach them all about Christianity and persuade them to become Christianity.
3. Who became the first Anglo-Saxon king?
King Ethelbert of Kent
4. What important building did Augustine build?
Canterbury Cathedral
5. Which famous Irish abbot helped to convert people in Scotland to Christianity?
Columba
6. Where did Columba build his abbey in 563AD?
Island of Iona
7. What was the name of the Pictish king who Columba converted to Christianity around 565AD?
King Bridei
8. Who was Oswald?
King of Northumbria
9. Who did King Oswald ask to help him teach the people of Northumbria about Christianity in 635AD?
Monks at Iona
10. What was the name of the monk who was sent from Iona to Northumbria to help with the mission to convert the people there to Christianity?
Aidan
11. What did Aidan build on the island of Lindisfarne?
monastery

We explored the Pagan Anglo-Saxon festivals and realised that some of the names for the days of the week come from the names of Anglo-Saxon gods and goddesses. We were then introduced to some of the significant people and places connected to their later conversion to Christianity.



We used our oracy and problem-solving skills to make deductions about the Sutton Hoo burial, using artefacts as evidence for our conclusions.



Finally, we made posters about the impact of the settlement of the Anglo-Saxons in Britain.

