

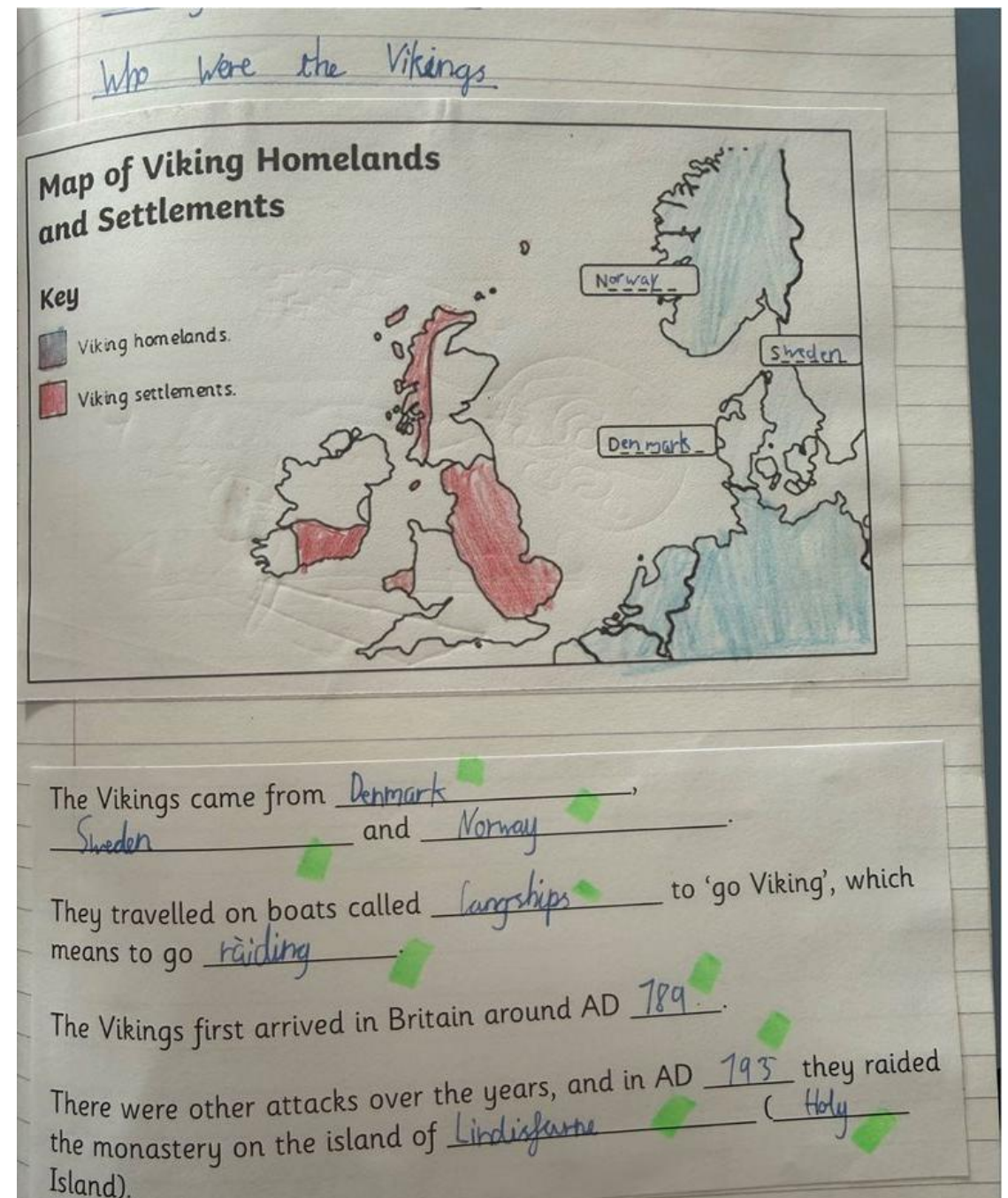
What was it like to be a Viking?

To begin our learning, we used maps and other information sources to find out about the Vikings.

Where did they come from?

When did they come?

How did they travel?

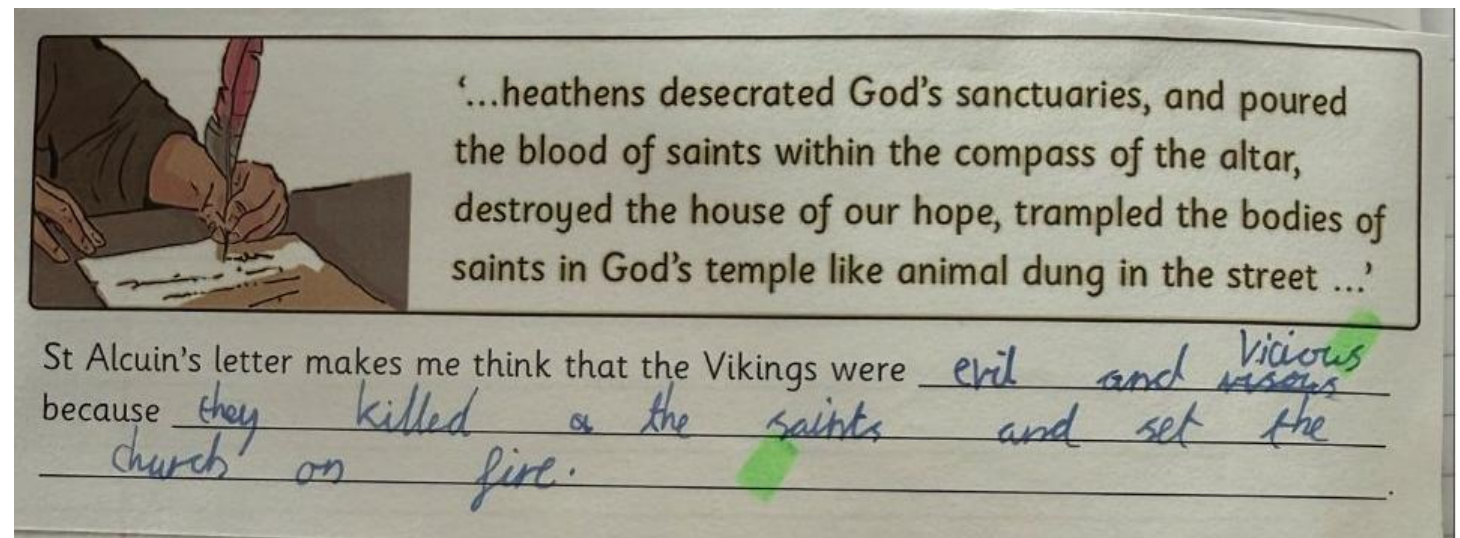
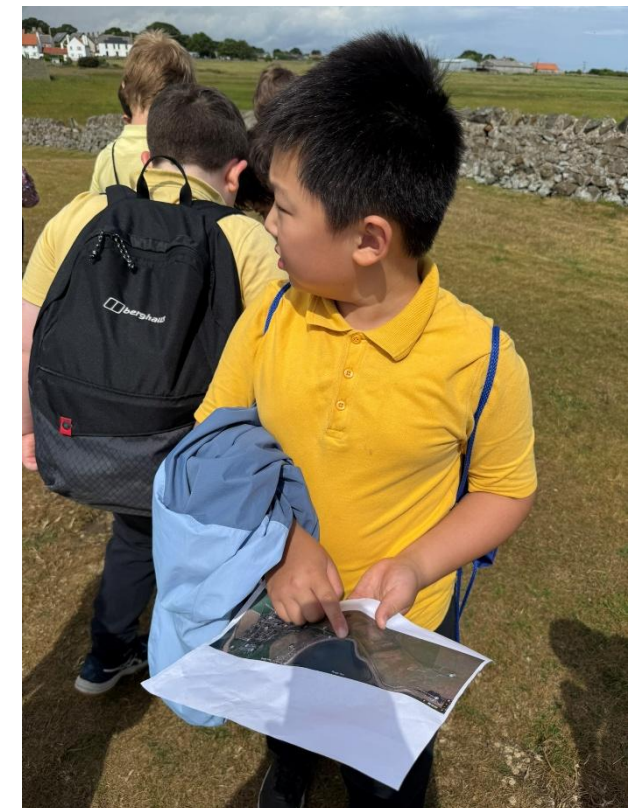


We learnt about the Viking raid on Lindisfarne in AD 793.

We watched videos of re-enactments of the Vikings travelling to the island and beginning their approach to the priory.

We thought about what the experience would have been like from the different perspectives of the Viking soldiers and of the monks who lived there.

We visited Lindisfarne to walk around the priory. We also used maps to try and find our locations based on the things we could see in the area around us.



We also used a historical source of evidence to think about what that tells us about the raiders.

Although discussed some of the reasons that the Vikings chose to come to Britain. We learnt that not everyone was a vicious raider! Many Vikings were farmers or villagers looking for better land to live on.

We worked in pairs to read some “quotes” from Vikings to decide what their reason for coming to Britain was.

Friday 19th June 2026

Why did the Vikings invade Britain?

Britain had lots of valuable things that the Vikings could steal.	Britain's farming land was better than the Vikings' home countries.	The Vikings could make good trades in Britain.	The Vikings needed more land – their countries were overcrowded.	Viking culture, beliefs and religion.
Leif, a Viking warrior: "I have heard that the monasteries in Britain have gold, silver and other valuable treasures. I want to bring riches back to my people."	Runa, a Viking farmer: "The fields in Britain are rich and fertile. The crops will grow well and there will be luscious grass for our animals to graze."	Halfdan, a Viking trader: "Britain has valuable resources that people want to buy and sell. I have heard there is tin and lead that can be traded for silver and other goods."	Astrid, a Viking mother: "I want my children to have a better future. If we settle in Britain, they will have more land to be happier and live a more comfortable life."	Ragnar, a Viking explorer: "My dream is to travel to new places like my father. I know that Thor will protect me on dangerous sea journeys"
Ivan, a Viking warrior: "I can take people from the monasteries and villages to sell as slaves. I will return to my home a wealthy man!"	Erik, a Viking farmer: "It's too cold and rocky for my crops to grow very well! I need somewhere warmer with better farmland so my family can survive."	Bjorn, a Viking trader: "Britain has many busy towns where I can sell furs, wool and other goods. I hope to become wealthy through trading my goods."	Harald, a Viking chief: "More and more people are joining my settlement. We need more space!"	Svala, a young Viking: "When my father dies, everything goes to my older brother. I need to find somewhere I can make a name for myself."
Gudrun, a Viking warrior: "Christian monasteries are easy targets! The monks have no weapons to fight back so we can easily take their gold silver and jewels."	Olaf, a Viking farmer: "Back home, the winters are very bitter and harsh, so farming land is very scarce. I need somewhere I can grow crops all year round."	Sigrid, a Viking jeweller: "I am skilled at designing and making jewellery. I need more people to sell to, and I wonder what other materials and jewels I could trade?"	Einer, a Viking settler: "My family's farm is only small. We can't provide enough food for us all!"	Varg, a Viking warrior: "My belief is that if I die fighting courageously in battle, I will join the other warriors in Valhalla."



I will fight every one to support my chief and people

A Viking raider



Britain has lot of valuable treasures I will take every thing there.

We also thought of our own “quotes” which different types of Viking people might have said as their reason for coming to Britain.

We learnt about the type of clothing Vikings wore – both warriors and typical villagers.

We looked at some of the jobs in more detail.

wednesday 24th June 2026

Viking Jobs

- Most Vikings were farmers.
- They used the land to produce food.
- Most villagers would help on the farm.
- They would have to kill their animals.



- They made tools, weapons.
- They were very skilled at the dangerous jobs.
- Their tools were a hammer, chisel and leather gloves.
- They would have to trade a lot for more bronze or things to make tools.



- Their designs were strong and complicated.
- They would sell or trade their jewellery.



- They made and sold many things like bowls, instruments.
- They used lathe to help with the logs.



- They dug up boggy mud to make clay.
- It was more of a men/boys job.



- They travelled to trade things like food, clothes and other stuff.



- They were all men.
- They were responsible to raid.



- Weavers were women.
- They had a flock of sheep.
- They would trade or sell it.




- Villagers wore brooches to pin their clothes together.
- Villagers wore a belt with a Pouch.
- Villagers wore wool and linen.



- Warriors wore helmets with no horns.
- Warriors had weapons.
- Warriors wore long boots.
- Warriors wore cloaks.

Our final piece of work was to work in our table groups to create a model Viking settlement. We made sure to include the main features; being near a river, having a big chief house and having farmland.

We also added facts around our village to show 'What was it like to be a Viking?'

