



# Knowledge Organiser: Yr 7 History;

## What happened before 1066?

### What are the key historical concepts we need to understand?:

• **History:** the study of past events, particularly in human affairs (the way groups of humans live and interact with each other).



• **History helps us:** to understand different people and societies from the past / to understand the world we live in today / about transferable life skills such as making a judgement and communication skills.

1

• **Chronological:** the order in which events happened (date order). Chronology is important to understand a sequence of events of how/why events in history happened. (for example chronologically the Greeks came before the Romans (or) 2021BC came before 2021AD)

### The Stone Age 800,000 BC - 2000 BC

#### Old Stage (Paleolithic) 800,000 BC – 9000 BC

- The first humans crossed into Britain
- by a land bridge from Europe.
- They hunted large animals such as Rhinoceros and Mammoth.
- People made tools from Flint (Stone) and bone.
- People did not stay in the same place.



#### Middle Stone Age (Mesolithic) 9000 BC–4300 BC

- Sea levels rose and Britain became an island.
- Fish and wild birds became available for food and new tools were needed to catch them.
- Humans moved according to the season, and some stayed in one place.
- Boats and jewellery were developed during this period.

#### New Stone Age (Neolithic) 4300 BC–2000 BC

- Farming began when more people migrated from Europe.
- Cows were brought to Britain for farming.
- Stonehenge is built. Pottery is produced.

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### The Bronze Age 2000 BC – 750 BC

- The Beaker People named after a type of cup people brought metalworking to Britain.
- The dead were buried in Barrows which were small hills.
- People built round houses to live in.
- People made weapons made out of Bronze.



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### The Iron Age 750 BC – 43 AD

- Iron Age weapons were produced which were stronger and cheaper.
- Hill Forts were built to defend people from attack.
- Communities developed.
- The Romans arrived in 43 AD and the Iron Age ended.



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### Roman Britain 43 AD – 410 AD

- The Roman legal system was introduced to Britain. This helped to solve problems peacefully.
- The Romans built strong straight roads for the army and merchants to use.
- The British had to pay taxes to the Romans.
- The Romans built Villas in the countryside to live in.
- The Romans introduced many things like the calendar, writing and cats.
- Roman soldiers were garrisoned throughout the country.
- The Romans introduced coinage to Britain and insisted that their taxes were paid in Roman coins.

5



### Anglo-Saxon and Viking Britain 410 AD – 1066 AD

- Over 70% of the population were peasants.
- The earls were the most powerful lords and they owned lots of land.
- Many villages contained just 12 to 15 houses. They were made of wattle and daub (sticks and twigs held together by wet soil or clay).
- The church was one of the most important buildings in the village.
- The Witan (meeting of wise men) were called when the King needed advice about important issues.
- The King was the most important person in Anglo-Saxon society and had power over the Church.
- A house was one large room with a fire in the centre.
- Exchanging goods for other goods was much more common than exchanging for money.
- People believed that God sent diseases as a punishment and that he could also heal the sick.

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