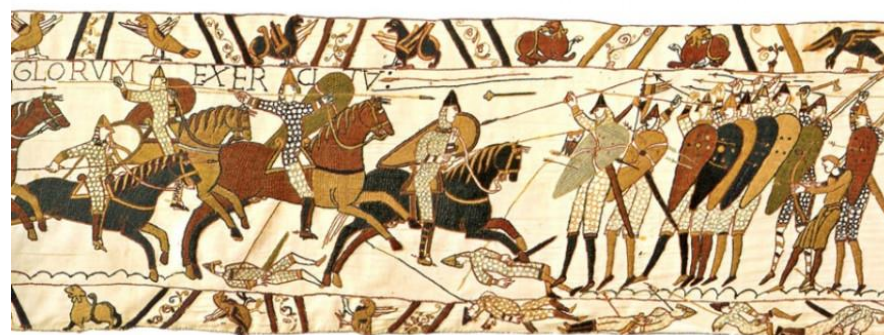




Twilight of the Saxon Age

Year 4 Charlies
Theme 5 - 2021/2022

Big Picture: The House of Wessex is in decline. Vikings have reclaimed the Danelaw. King Ethelred 'the Unready' is poorly advised and makes some terrible decisions. In response, the Vikings, supported by some of the Saxon nobility, seize the throne. What follows is years of fighting over the crown of England, which will only end when trouble comes in the form of the Norman Invasion and the end of the Anglo-Saxon Period.



Mantle

To celebrate the lending of the Bayeux Tapestry to Great Britain, English Heritage wants to put on a series of events at their sites and articles in their magazine that will teach visitors and readers about the Norman Invasion in a fun way. How could we help them?

Other experiences

Role Play: Using descriptions of the battle, children will re-enact the Battle of Hastings.
Conscience Alley: Children will have the opportunity to act as King Ethelred as others whisper poor advice in his ear. How difficult is it to make a good decision when surrounded by selfishness?
Hot Seat: Taking the roles of Edward the Confessor, Harold Godwinson and William of Normandy, children will explore the motivations of the key figures of 1066.

Key aspects of learning across the curriculum

We will continue to develop our key skills of:

- **Enquiry**
- **Problem solving**
- **Creative thinking**
- **Information processing and computing**
- **Reasoning**
- **Evaluation**
- **Self Awareness**
- **Managing Feelings**
- **Motivation**
- **Empathy**
- **Social skills**
- **Communication**

As good citizens we will discuss the importance of honesty and honouring agreements, and what the consequences may be when trust is broken.

As readers we will compare first-person accounts of the events leading up to the Norman Conquest and discuss bias and opinion.

As historians we will track and analyse the impact of the key figures and events that led to the Anglo-Saxon defeat on the 14th October 1066AD. We will also look at what the Bayeux Tapestry can tell us about the lead up to the conquest.

As mathematicians we will calculate how long it would take to move an army across land and sea.

As design technologists explore weaving, tying into our look at the Bayeux Tapestry.

As historical re-enactors we will build our own shields to form a Saxon shield wall.