



Paganel Primary School - Summer Term Knowledge Organiser

Year Group: 6 Topic: The Battle of Hastings

Prior knowledge:

- Any historical awareness of events in the 9th century on Vikings & Anglo-Saxons

Key knowledge:

- The battle was fought on Senlac Hill, seven miles from Hastings, England.
- It took place on 14th October 1066.
- The Anglo-Saxons fought on foot whilst the Norman Knights rode on horseback. A clear advantage.
- Serfs were poor members of society who owned nothing themselves, worked on farms for wealthier Saxons and paid rent and taxes. At this time in Anglo-Saxon England, Theigns were wealthy Lords of the King. However, they owed everything to the King, including their lives in War.
- Angles (Anglo-Saxon England) is part of Anglo-Saxon land (Britain) whose King, King Edward the Confessor- named so for religious reasons- dies. He has no children so there is no-body to ascend the throne. His cousin, a Norman Duke (Normandy in France) named William, said he wanted the throne. The Saxon Theigns did not want a Norman so made Harold, Edward's brother in law (a Saxon) King. Well William was furious and set off to invade England with the Pope's support who lent him knights and soldiers.



Key Vocabulary	Definition
Theign	(In Anglo-Saxon England) a person ranking between an earl and an ordinary freeman, holding land of the king or a lord in return for services.
Viking	Any of the Scandinavian seafaring pirates and traders who raided and settled in many parts of north-western Europe in the 8th-11th centuries.
Anglo-Saxon	Relating to or denoting the Germanic inhabitants of England from their arrival in the 5th century up to the Norman Conquest.
Knight	(in the Middle Ages) a man who served his sovereign or lord as a mounted soldier in armour.
Battle	a sustained fight between large organized armed force
Crusade	a vigorous campaign for political, social, or religious change
Armour	the metal coverings formerly worn to protect the body in battle
Reign	old royal office; rule as monarch
Monarchy	the monarch and royal family of a country