

## Anglo Saxon Immersive Day

The Year 5 and Year 6 pupils started the year by experiencing life as an Anglo Saxon – some of us even dressed-up for the event! Our themed day introduced our History topic on the Anglo Saxons and we began in AD449 when two Saxon brothers, Hengest and Horsa, were hired to fight for Britain. However, they later decided they liked it, turned against the current King and invaded.

Throughout the day we heard more about Anglo Saxon villages, jobs and feasting. In fact, we actually got to explore Anglo Saxon artefacts in a multi-sensory handling activity including wooden and bone tools, iron artefacts, foods and spices, grinding quern and trying on clothing. In one of our activities we played 'Brunhild and the Wolves', a tense game of capture and defence where Brunhild attempts to collect the wood for the fire whilst avoiding the hungry wolves!

The day continued in the afternoon as we 'crossed the North Sea' - just like the Anglo Saxons – and built a full-size representation of an Anglo-Saxon boat. We got to explore house-building techniques using wood joints as well as wattle and daub. It was quite a surprise to find out that Anglo Saxons built houses with animal dung! Actually, some of the most gruesome information was saved for learning about crime and punishment: all of which are too grisly to describe here!

By the end of the day we had so much knowledge on the Anglo Saxons that we aced the retrieval quiz. But our time as Anglo Saxons is not over. In Forest School next week, we are going to feast on vegetables, craft earthenware and weave on a loom. In our next History lesson, we will learn how England was split into Northumbria, Wessex, Mercia and East Anglia.

We would like to thank the Parish Council for enabling us to bring this learning to life. We used some of the Youth Culture Fund to bring 'Making the Classroom Disappear' into the school and they really made the learning memorable.



