Knowledge Organiser—Year 5

"How did invasion change Britain?"

Beowulf

The 7 kingdoms of Anglo-Saxon Britain

Lindisfarne Monastery

Garfield Primary

Vocabulary

Romans– people from Italy who invaded, settled and then ruled Britain for more than 400 years.

Angles—tribes from modern day Denmark.

Saxons—tribes from Northern Germany.

Anglo-Saxons — the name given to the people who settled in Britain from 450AD.

Invade — to enter a country by force with large numbers of fighters in order to take possession of it.

Settlement — a place where people establish a community.

Beowulf — a legendary Geatish (modern day Denmark) warrior who slayed the mythical beast, Grendel.

Epic poem– a long poem in which a hero has to fight a supernatural being or monster.

Pagan– a religion, not one of the main world faiths, in which many different gods and goddesses are worshipped.

Christianity — a faith based on the teachings of Jesus.

Missionary—a religious person who travels abroad to encourage other people to join their faith.
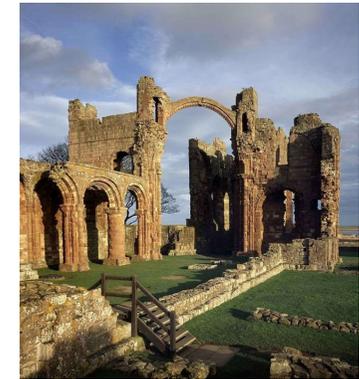
Key facts

By 410, the Romans who had ruled Britain for many years returned to Italy, leaving the country open to invasion from neighbouring tribes.

One of the British leaders asked two brothers, Hengest and Horsa, (from what is modern day Denmark) to help him fight the Picts and Scots who were invading. Unfortunately, once they had fought them off they decided they wanted to settle in Britain and their tribes took over the country.

The first Anglo-Saxons worshipped many different gods and goddesses (deities) and made sacrifices to them. They were very superstitious and used lucky charms and magic.

By 700 AD Britain was a Christian country after monks from Rome arrived to teach about Christianity. Monks on the island of Lindisfarne helped spread Christianity throughout the British Isles.

Old English was spoken at the time of the invasions by Angles and Saxons. This language is also known as Anglo-Saxon. The epic poem **Beowulf** is written in Anglo-Saxon.

The Anglo-Saxons were made up of two tribes: the Angles from Denmark and the Saxons from northern Germany.

Many areas of Britain have names that can be traced back to Anglo-Saxon times.

Britain was divided into seven different kingdoms during Anglo-Saxon times.