



# History Knowledge Organiser

Year: 7

Topic: Romans to Vikings

Half term: Autumn 2

Romans



Anglo-Saxons



Vikings



## Key Terms

<b>Empire</b>	group of states or countries ruled over by a single monarch
<b>Senate</b>	A council of the Roman republic which had lawful power over administration and could deliver justice to the knights
<b>Republic</b>	A state in which supreme power is held by people who were elected.
<b>Tribes</b>	social division in a traditional society consisting of families or communities
<b>Pagans</b>	person holding religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions.
<b>Viking</b>	Scandinavian seafaring pirates and traders who raided and settled in many parts of north-western Europe in the 8th-11th centuries.
<b>Danelaw</b>	Part of England which was given to the Danes/Vikings as part of a peace treaty between Alfred the Great and Guthrum.
<b>Exotic</b>	Something that is out of the ordinary such as plants, animals and food
<b>Conquered</b>	A place which has been overcome and taken control of by military force
<b>Pious</b>	Very religious

- **Rome** was founded in 753 BC.
- Until 27BC, Rome was a republic and was ruled by the Senate.
- In 27BC, Augustus established the Roman Empire, which was from then on ruled by an absolute Emperor though there were many rebellions and plots.
- The Roman Empire grew until it stretched from Portugal to Persia (today's Iran), and from Scotland to the Sahara desert.
- At its biggest it was estimated to have 100 million inhabitants.
- After a crisis in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD, Rome slowly declined and the finally collapsed in 476AD.
- One of the reasons Rome became so powerful was because of it's army.
- Romans believed in many different gods and goddesses however became Christian in 313 AD.



## **Homework tasks**

1. Learn the key words and their definitions.
2. Design your own KO using the knowledge gained in your lessons.
3. Choose one of the topics we have covered in this unit and teach a family member. Ask them to write a review of what you have told them.

Submit your homework to your class teacher for achievement points!

- Three groups of migrants (Angles, Saxons and Jutes) sailed across the North Sea from Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands and became known as the **Anglo-Saxons**.
- During the 5<sup>th</sup> Century, once the Romans had gone, they began to settle, becoming farmers, craftsmen and traders.
- By the 7<sup>th</sup> Century, Britain was divided into several different kingdoms, all with their own ruler.
- The first Anglo-Saxons were pagans who worshipped various gods, but were soon converted to Christianity.
- The Anglo-Saxons lived in Britain for nearly 400 years before they were attacked by invaders from Scandinavia.



- **Vikings** were fearsome warriors and even today are seen as a brutal and vicious people.
- The Vikings first came to Britain in 793 AD
- In the years that followed, villages near the sea, monasteries and even cities found themselves besieged by these sea-based foreign intruders.
- By 866 the Vikings had arrived in York. They made Jorvik the second biggest city in the country after London.
- Eventually, England was in full control of the Vikings and there was even a Viking king on the English throne!



## **Suggested Reading**

- **The Greenlanders by Jane Smiley**
- **Echoes of Valhalla: The Afterlife of Eddas and Sagas by Jon Karl Helgason**
- **Ohthere's Voyages edited by Janet Bately and Anton Englert**
- **Ruthless Romans, Smashing Saxons, Vicious Vikings - Horrible Histories Collection**