



# Ashley Junior School

Ready • Respectful • Responsible

6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

In Year 4, we have been enjoying learning about the Anglo Saxons. In our lessons, we have discussed the importance of the work of archaeologists and how the artefacts that they find that help us to understand what life was like in the past.

### **Home Learning Project**

We would like the children to make an artefact and bring it in to share with everyone. We know many of the children have begun their projects and it is great to see the classrooms fill up with the children's fabulous work. They may choose something based upon Anglo Saxons or Vikings, such as homemade metalwork, including gold, silver, and garnet jewellery (brooches, buckles) and weaponry jewellery, weapons or shields or farming equipment such as Iron sickle blades, scythes, and spade sheaths as our history topic moves along its timeline to the invasion of the Vikings.

Please could artefacts come into school on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**. Thank you for your co-operation with this project. It will be exciting to see what everyone brings in!

### **Anglo Saxon and Viking Day 14<sup>th</sup> April**

We will celebrate the end of our history topic by holding an Anglo Saxon and Viking Day. We would like to invite the children to dress up as an Anglo Saxon or Viking and the children will experience a range of activities during the day. Please note that some of the day will be spent outside in our forest school area and so your child will need suitable footwear for these sessions.

Kind regards

**Year 4 team**

**Miss Holmes and Mrs Woodward.**

# Artefacts and Culture



**Decorated Brooch:** Dated 5<sup>th</sup> - early 7<sup>th</sup> century. Found at Eriswell cemetery. Made of bronze decorated with gold. These square brooches were worn in pairs (to hold up women's dresses) or on their own to fasten a cloak.



**Coin - Sceatta:** Issued between 720-749AD. Made of silver. Used across Europe in the 8<sup>th</sup> century.



**Cross:** 8<sup>th</sup> century Merican style stone cross in Eyam Churchyard, Derbyshire. Decorated with intricate carvings.



**The York Helmet:** Regarded as one of the Anglo-Saxon best finds. Unearthed in 1982 in Coppergate. Dated between 750 and 775AD. The helmet is made of iron and brass and has an inscription in Latin which translates as 'In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit and God, and to all we say amen Oshere'. It is believed that Oshere was an important nobleman. It has a pattern of entwined animals engraved on the nosepiece.



**Helmet:** This is a reproduction of a helmet found in mound 1, Sutton Hoo in 1949. Made from iron and copper. Decorated with scenes of warriors.



**Ring:** Found in the River Thames, Chelsea. Made of silver. Dated to 775 - 805AD. Contains detailed openwork.



**Coin Pendant:** Made from gold and beads. Found in Sarre, Kent. Dated to the early 7<sup>th</sup> century. It is believed the coins depict Byzantine emperor Maurice Tiberius (rule 582 - 602AD).



**Stained glass:** Picture shows the coronation of King Eadgar at Bath Abbey in 959AD. Eadgar is regarded as the first king of all Britain.



**The Milton Jewel Brooch:** Dated 6th - 7th century AD. Found in a graveyard in Milton, Dorchester-on-Thames in 1832. Made from gold, shell and garnet. It has intricate filigree knot patterns.

<https://www.hobbycraft.co.uk/ideas/how-to-make-a-viking-longboat.html>



## HOW TO MAKE A CARDBOARD SWORD

Follow our simple guide to making a Norman-style sword out of cardboard and foil.  
Knights need a weapon at their side to go on the attack, but there's no need to get injured before battle commences. Young squares might need some help from an experienced warrior when cutting out pieces.



<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/easter/preparing-for-easter-adventure-quests/how-to-make-a-cardboard-sword/>



www.darrellwakelam.com

## Sutton Hoo Helmet

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1o2LvORP3MU>



Jewellery ideas – made using cardboard, string, beads, aluminium foil and paint.