

History Year 7 Autumn Term 1 'Knowledge Organiser: Medieval England – 1066: Who cares?'



Summary:

1066 was the start of great changes for England. When Edward the Confessor died there were several people who claimed the throne which led to battles and uncertainty for the whole year. The successful invasion of a foreign army led to a new King and the introduction of a new structure to society.

Key terms.

Chronology	Putting events into the order they happened.
Feudal System	This forced the English to give William their taxes and promises of loyalty, in return for protection and land to farm. This creates a new social structure in England where William gains money, loyalty and an army, giving him control.
Motte and Bailey Castle	The first castles built to help fight against rebellion and invasion. Built quickly out of wood they were not very strong.
Stone Keep	The castle was made out of stone and had towers for added defence with the Keep used as the main defence.
Concentric Castle	The outer and inner walls meant that this stone castle was the hardest to attack.

Timeline:

1042	Edward the Confessor became King of England.
Jan 1066	Edward the Confessor died. Harold Godwin is crowned King of England by the Witan.
Sept 1066	Battle of Stamford Bridge. Harold Hardrada invaded and was eventually defeated.
Oct 1066	William, Duke of Normandy, defeated Harold Godwin.
Dec 1066	Christmas Day William is crowned King of England.
1070	Harrying of the North
1077	Bayeux tapestry is completed
1086	Domesday Survey is completed
Sept 1087	William dies

Key Words.

Anglo-Saxon	People that lived in England before the Norman Conquest
Bailey	The yard area outside of the castle walls.
Bayeux Tapestry	An embroidery made by the Normans to tell the story of the Norman Conquest.
Cavalry	William's soldiers that fought on horseback.
Century	100 years
Conquest	Taking an area by using force
Decade	10 years
Fyrd	Local farmers that fight for Harold Godwin's army.
Harrying	To completely destroy.
Heir	Next in line to inherit titles and wealth when someone has died.
Housecarls	Paid, experienced soldiers that fought for Harold Godwin's army.
Keep	Name of the fortified tower inside the castle for the baron.
Medieval	The period 1066 – 1500. Also known as the Middle Ages.
Moat	A ditch around a castle, sometimes filled with water.
Motte	Mound a keep is built on
Normans	People from Normandy in France, led by William, Duke of Normandy.
Pope	Head of the Roman Catholic Church.
Witan	The King's Council. It was made up of powerful Bishops and Earls (landowners) who helped the king to rule the country.

key people.

Edward the Confessor	King of England 1042 – 1066. He spent a lot of time in Normandy. He was married but had no children. He was made a 'saint' by the Pope hence the title 'confessor'.
Harold Hardrada	Viking King of Norway. He was the most feared warrior in Europe with the nickname 'the Ruthless'.
Harold Godwin	He was an Anglo-Saxon and the Earl of Wessex, one of the most powerful men in England and brother-in-law to Edward.
Edgar Aethling	His father was Edward's nephew, giving him a blood claim to the throne. He was 15 in 1066 with no experience of fighting.
William Duke of Normandy	William was a brave soldier with a reputation. He was cousin to Edward the Confessor and they grew up in Normandy together.

Concept: Change and Continuity