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To the parents of children in Y5

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will know we are now starting a history topic about the invasion of Britain by the Anglo-Saxons. To help the children become immersed in the topic, we have booked a workshop on Monday 16th November 2020 provided by 'Portals to The Past'.

During the day, the children will have the opportunity to experience Saxon England, from the hierarchy and etiquette of the Lord's Hall, the language and the story of Beowulf, through to the burial of a Saxon king. The children will take part in role play and be able to get a real hands-on experience of history by exploring real Anglo-Saxon weapons, armour and artefacts.

To cover the cost of the day, we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £5.50 which can be paid under trips on Scopay by **Friday 13th November**. Unfortunately, if we are unable to cover the cost of the day, we may have to cancel the booking. To help the children to have a full experience, we are asking them to dress up as an Anglo-Saxon for the day and ideas for a simple costume can be found below. Bearing in mind this is taking place in November, can we please ask that you send in some warmer clothes for your child to wear at break and lunchtimes if their costume will not keep them warm. A pair of tracksuit bottoms and a jumper would be suitable.

Where necessary, we have adapted the activities to ensure that the children, staff and visitors are as safe as possible and adhere to our Covid-19 risk assessment. Portals to the Past have also developed their own risk assessment which has been signed off and agreed with Miss Harrison. Our risk assessment can be found on our website under policies but if you have any further questions, please get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Year 5 team

Dressing up day ideas

Anglo Saxons

So you're having an Anglo Saxon dressing up day? Don't panic! Even if you'd forgotten about it until 8pm the night before, you can still manage to whip up a costume with some simple items in your house. There's no need for any buying or sewing!

Anglo Saxon Warrior

- A long sleeved, oversize plain T-shirt, any colour but muted ones are best. Borrow your parents' or big brother's.
- A thin belt, leather or fabric. A plain tie-belt from a dressing gown will do at a push.
- A pair of plain dark leggings or jogging bottoms
- Two strips of fabric to wrap the bottom half of the legs in (optional)
- A rectangle of fabric for a cloak, held by a pin or brooch
- Plain dark shoes or short boots



Anglo Saxon Lady

There was a big difference between Anglo Saxon ladies at the beginning and end of the Anglo Saxon age. Decide whether you want to be an early Anglo Saxon (450AD - 700AD) or a late Anglo Saxon (700AD - 1066AD)

Early Anglo Saxon Lady

- A plain coloured long dress or top and skirt
- A "tube dress". This was literally a tube of fabric pinned together at the shoulders. If you don't want to sew, then you can use a rectangle of fabric with a hole cut in it for the head - an old sheet is perfect.
- A thin belt
- A pair of round brooches, which will fasten the shoulders of the tube dress. Decorated card with safety-pins taped to the back works well!
- A string of beads to hang between the two brooches
- Plain dark shoes or short boots
- A plain headscarf (optional)
- Ladies can also wear cloaks if desired



Late Anglo Saxon Lady

For the late Anglo Saxon lady you will not need the tube dress or jewellery. Instead you will need a "wimple" or headscarf big enough to cover your hair and neck. You can also put a band of fabric around your head to hold it in place.

