

### **WHEN**

The Anglo-Saxon era spans from 410 AD to 1066 AD

410 = the departure of Roman troops from Britain

1066 = the invasion of the Normans (William the Conqueror)

### **WHERE did they COME FROM?**

They came from the continent.

The Angles from today's southern Denmark

The Saxons from today's Holland

The Jutes from today's northern Denmark

### **WHO were they?**

They were German tribes who came from Germany and Scandinavia.

They spoke a different language from the Celts.

They lived in wooden huts. Their houses were rectangular and not round.

They were skilled metal workers. They had strong weapons and armors.

They were experienced warriors.

### **WHY did they invade Britain?**

Britain and especially today's England was a very promising land. It had large fertile fields.

It had rivers for irrigation.

It had rich metal resources.

## The Anglo-Saxons

These Germanic tribes had started raiding the British coasts since the time of the Romans. But the Romans were too powerful to be defeated. Therefore when the Romans left the indigenous Celtic population was not strong enough to defend their land.

According to some sources it was the Celts themselves the ones who invited the Saxons and offered them land in the South in order to protect them from other invading German tribes.

The Anglo-Saxons soon dominated the whole of today's England and partially south Wales. Northern Wales, Ireland and Scotland remained predominantly Celtic.

The Anglo- Saxons created four major kingdoms:

1. Northumbria
2. Mercia
3. East Anglia
4. Wessex (Sussex)

