

Year 4 Anglo-Saxon Day

This term, Year 4 have been exploring their history enquiry question: *Why is England not part of Rome today?* We have been studying the Anglo Saxons and learning about various aspects of the Anglo-Saxon rule and the impact it has had on Britain today. So far, the history study has included Anglo Saxon society, communication and language and the significance of women and their role in that period.



On Monday, Year 4 had the best time travelling back in time all the way to the Anglo-Saxon era where they began with making their own bread just as Anglo-Saxon slaves would have done (although we did cheat a little and buy the ingredients instead of growing our own wheat!).

The children really enjoyed the process of following a recipe to make bread, mixing ingredients and kneading the dough. They particularly enjoyed shaping them in perfect rolls and buns after the proofing- all ready to be cooked by our wonderful kitchen staff.



To end the day, we enjoyed our wonderful bread around the fire just like they would have done in Anglo-Saxon times. The children had fun warming their bread on the fire which they ate with some vegetable soup. Did you know Anglo-Saxons used to have an open fire both in their houses and a great one out in their village? This was used to dry out utensils made with clay as well as keeping warm when outside.



Fun (or scary) facts:

Parents were allowed to sell any children under the age of seven! They often did this during famines so that they would have fewer mouths to feed.



Food shortages were a real problem for the Anglo-Saxons. They often ate squirrels, hedgehogs, small birds, cats and dogs during times of famine.

Throughout the day, Year 4 explored Kennings and write their own Kenning poems. Kennings are **phrases of two words that replace a noun in poetry**, often found in Anglo-Saxon and Norse poems. Kennings can be a type of poem and like a riddle. Kennings are commonly used in poetry to describe something without saying what it is.

Have a go at reading one which was written by Yusuf Amujee in 4 Hazel.

Can you guess what is being described?

Human maker,
Earth
controller,
Sun mover,
Moon shifter,
Nature creator,