Year 4 Autumn Term Knowledge Organiser

Castles Vocabulary

Normans	moat	portcullis	taxes	revolt
invasion	drawbridge	feudal	knight	Doomsday
conquer	keep	nobles	page	Hastings
tapestry	curtain wall	serf	squire	Anglo-Saxon
motte	ward	peasants	armour	Vikings
bailey	siege	farming	tournament	banquet



In **January 1066** Edward the Confessor died. He got his name because he was a devout Christian. A long time after he died he was made a saint.



Just before Edward died he named Harold as the next king. Harold was crowned king a few days later.



William, Duke of Normandy, was not happy that Harold was king. William thought he should be king. So in **July 1066** he prepared for battle.



William was delayed in France by the wind so his army did not set sail to England until September 1066.



In October 1066 William travelled east along the coast and Harold travelled south. They met in Hastings. The Battle of Hastings lasted one day. Many soldiers were killed, including King Harold.



William the Conqueror travelled to London and arrived in **December 1066**. He was crowned king of England on Christmas Day.

Bayeux Tapestry

The Normans created a huge tapestry to tell the key events of their invasion victory in 1066. It is still displayed in Normandy today, nearly 1000 years after the battle!

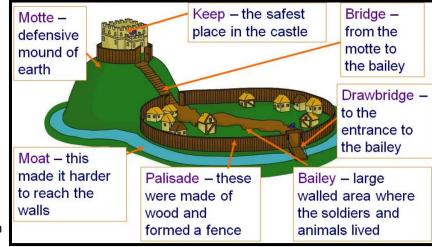


Battle of Hasting (1066)

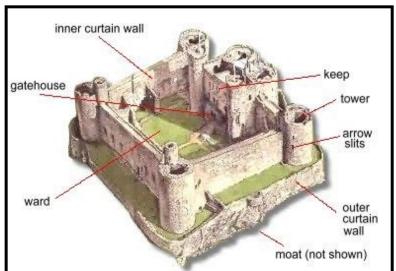
This timeline shows all key events which led up to the battle.

KEY QUESTION: How did William's victory at the Battle of Hastings change Britain?

After his victory, William built castles to show his strength and to protect his armies from attacks by angry Anglo-Saxons



To start with wooden motte and bailey castles were built. However, the wood rotted in the rain and they were easy to destroy with



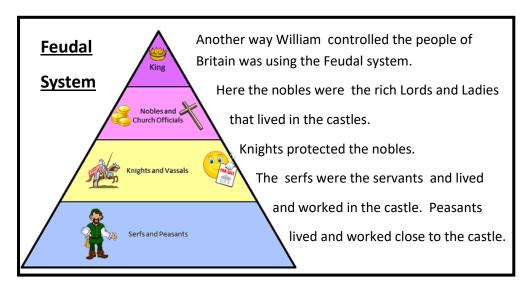
They were replaced with stronger, more permanent stone keep castles. These had defence features much like portcullis, arrow slits and thick stone wall.



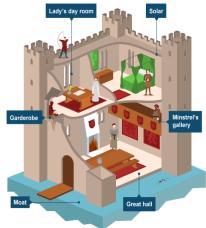


Siege Towers, battering Rams and catapults were special weapons used to attack castles





Lords and Ladies





The Lords and Ladies lived in the Keep of the castle. They ruled over the land given to them by the king. They gave the King some of the money they made form the land.



They used the taxes collected to pay for huge feasts and expensive clothes.

Knights



armour

Helmet .

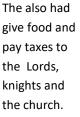
Knights lived in the castle and promised to protect the Lord.

Knights started out as Pages at the age of 7. At the age of 14, they became squires began to take part in castle life. Finally, at the age of 21, they became Knights. They were given the title of sir and land to look after.



The peasants had a hard life. They worked long hours farming the land .

Peasants





1381- Peasants Revolt



Eventually, they staged a revolt. The king promised to change things but then arrested and killed the ring leaders and made peasant life even harder.

Activities to do at home *Bring in your work so it can be shared and celebrated.*

- 1. Visit a castle. Record a video, write a blog or create an information page about the castle.
- 2. Build your own castle with tower and turrets. Think about the different materials you could use.
- 3. Create your own coat of arms. Research different coats of arms and what each symbol means.
- 4. Bake your own castle themed biscuits. They could be castle or dragon shaped. Record the recipe.
- 5. Research facts about life in a medieval castle. What did they eat? What did they wear? What jobs were there in the castle







These are some of the texts we will be using during Reading sessions.