
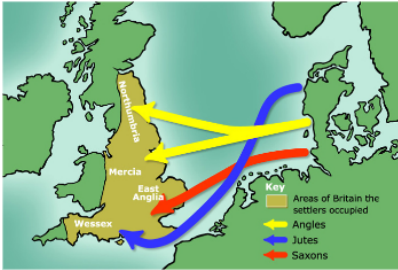


14<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear parents/carers

At Branfil Primary School, we have introduced Knowledge Organisers (KOs) in class to help children learn and remember the essential knowledge in the different subjects that they study. Knowledge organisers are a summary of the key facts and key vocabulary. Additional knowledge will be taught, however the key knowledge is the information we expect all children to know and remember by the end of the unit of work. During lesson time, teachers will provide opportunities for children to recall key knowledge using retrieval strategies such as quizzes. KOs are generally one side of A4 with all the information broken down into easily digestible chunks.

*Below is an example of a KO:*

<p><b>Subject:</b> Anglo-Saxons and Scots Settlements</p>		
<p><b>NC curriculum objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Britain's settlement by Anglo-Saxons and Scots.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Key knowledge</b></p> <p>When the Anglo-Saxons first settled in Britain, there were seven kingdoms, but by AD 878 there was just one kingdom left (Wessex) as the others had been overrun by the Vikings.</p> <p>The Saxons were different groups that came at different times from Northern Germany and Southern Scandinavia. Some reasons for them coming, they needed more land, good farm land and resources.</p> <p>There were 8 kingdoms: Merca, East Anglia, Bernicia, Northumbria, Kingdom of Sussex, Kingdom of East Anglia, Kent, Essex and Deira. Over time it merged into four kingdoms Northumbria, Merca, East Anglia and Wessex.</p> <p>King Alfred the Great was the best known Anglo-Saxon king and the first to defeat the Vikings in battle.</p> <p>When the Romans left, Britain was Christian and the Saxons were pagans, so Christianity died out in Saxon areas.</p>	<p><b>Prior knowledge</b></p> <p>Year Three - Romans</p> 	<p><b>Key vocabulary</b></p> <p><b>Invasion</b> - to enter and occupy land</p> <p><b>Conquest</b> - the invasion of something or someone</p> <p><b>Pagan</b> - a person who worships many Gods or Goddesses</p> <p><b>Settlement</b> - a place where people live</p> <p><b>Runes</b> - a letter of an ancient Germanic alphabet</p> <p><b>Angles</b> - a group of Germanic people who joined together</p> <p><b>Saxons</b> - a group of Germanic people who joined together</p> <p><b>Jutes</b> - a German member who joined the Angles and Saxons</p>

Knowledge Organisers will be uploaded to Google Classroom so you have access to them at home. At Branfil, we are always encouraging our children to find out more about what they are learning in class at home. A knowledge organiser is a great tool to do this.

*Here are some suggestions to help you to support your child with their learning:*

- Children read the information at regular points throughout the half term (ideally with an adult).
- Discuss the information together, focussing on your child's reading and understanding the information.
- Ask your child some questions about the key knowledge and word meanings.
- Revisit the document regularly over the half term and ask your child what else they have learnt in class that expands upon the facts in the Knowledge Organiser.
- Discuss the new vocabulary on the Knowledge Organiser and model using these words in a sentence, or discuss definitions to help your child develop their understanding of these new words.

- Help your child to develop their understanding of their topic by visiting the library to borrow some information books (library staff will be able to help you to locate relevant books); research on the internet with adult support and supervision.

We are confident that the Knowledge Organisers will support the children to build their knowledge, remember key facts and will significantly improve their vocabulary across all curriculum areas. This will then help them to be more confident in class as well as developing their reading and writing skills across the curriculum.

If you have any more questions regarding Knowledge Organisers, please do not hesitate to ask your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely

Mrs N Gunthorpe  
Deputy Headteacher