Knowledge Organiser Year 4 History: The unification and conquest of England

Important People

King Alfred the Great

Reign: 871-899

Liberated parts of England from Viking control. Was recognised as 'king of the

English' in non-Viking controlled lands.



Aethelflaed Lady of the Mercians

Reign: 911-918

Queen of Mercia who defeated the Vikings and established English rule.



King Aethelstan

Reign: 925-939

The first ruler to be regarded as 'king of all England'.
Built the strength of the Kingdom.



King Cnut

Reign: 1016-1035

Invaded England and became king,

making England part of

the Viking empire for a time.



Edward the Confessor

Reign: 1042-1066

Known for his religious faith; built Westminster Abbey.

Had no heirs.



William the Conqueror

Reign: 1066-1087

Duke of Normandy, crowned King of England after winning Battle of

Hastings.



Tier 3 Vocabulary

Danelaw Part of England under the control of the Vikings.

Reign The period in which a monarch is on the throne.

Kingdom An area governed over by a monarch.

Treaty An agreement between two or more countries.

Danegeld Money paid to the Vikings to stop them invading Britain.

Witan An Anglo-Saxon council or parliament.

Claimant Someone who believes they should have something.

Heir The next person in line for the throne.

Berserker A ferocious or wild Viking warrior.

Key question:

How did England become a unified country?

Key Battles

The Battle of Fulford: 20th September 1066

Edwin and Morcar, Earls of Northumbria, and Mercia's

English army vs Harald Hardrada's army from Scandinavia

The Battle of Stamford Bridge: 25th September 1066

Harold Godwinson's English army vs Harald Hardrada's army

from Scandinavia

The Battle of Hastings: 14th October 1066

Harold Godwinson's English army vs William, Duke of

Normandy's Army from France