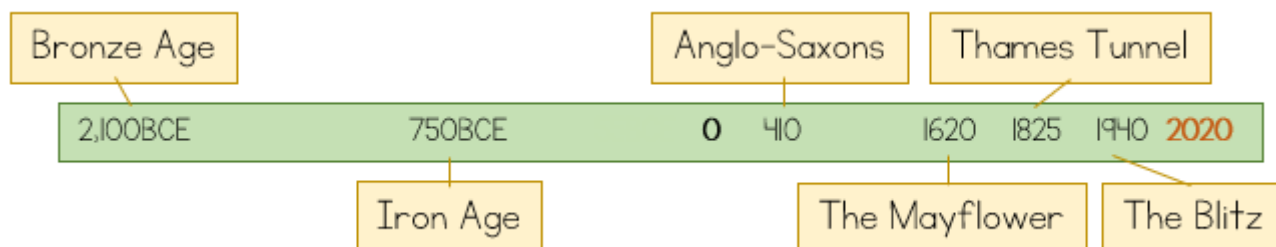


Monday 13th – Friday 17th July 2020

History

At the start of June, we looked at the **Iron Age** in Britain which began around 2,800 years ago and lasted for about 800 years. The Iron Age ended when the Romans invaded Britain and set up their own civilisation.



The people who lived in Britain during the Iron Age are now known as the **Celts**. As we learned before, these people discovered **iron** and became great craftsmen who created weapons and household objects from this new metal. Before that, bronze was the main metal that items were made from.

Celts lived in different tribes (groups) and each tribe had their own king or queen. This meant that there was sometimes fighting between neighbouring tribes. Celtic tribes in Britain included the Iceni, the Cornovii and the Ordovices. You might remember that, in Literacy on 29th June, we read about the famous female warrior queen **Boudicca** who led the Iceni tribe.

The Celts loved brightly coloured clothes. They wore woollen clothing which they dyed with natural dyes made from the juice of berries and plants. They wove the wool using a **loom** and used metal or bone needles to sew the pieces together. The women wore skirts or dresses to the floor, with a cloak pinned with a brooch. The men wore T-shaped tunics with a belt and trousers.



The Celts liked jewellery and they made it from bronze, gold, silver, coral and tin. The important people, like chieftains, would wear a gold **torc** which was a twisted neckband.

As we learned before, the Celts were mainly farmers. They grew corn and gathered berries, honey, nuts and plants. They hunted animals like deer, bear, wild boar and fish which all lived wild in Britain in the Iron Age. The farmers also kept cows, pigs, goats, chickens and sheep which they used for milk, eggs and meat.

Do you remember the name given to the Celts homes? A farmer had to be ready to defend his land and fight invaders so **roundhouses** were often built near each other on top of hills which were called **hillforts**.



Imagine that you are an Iron Age Celt for the day! Use some of the typical Iron Age activities below to create a diary entry for your day as a Celt.

Swept the floor	Helped to prepare the breakfast.	Worked in the field.	Fed the chickens.	Decorated a new cooking pot.
Dyed wool.	Weaved cloth.	Collected water from the stream to drink.	Was woken up by the sun.	Repaired the roof of the roundhouse.

Celtic Warriors

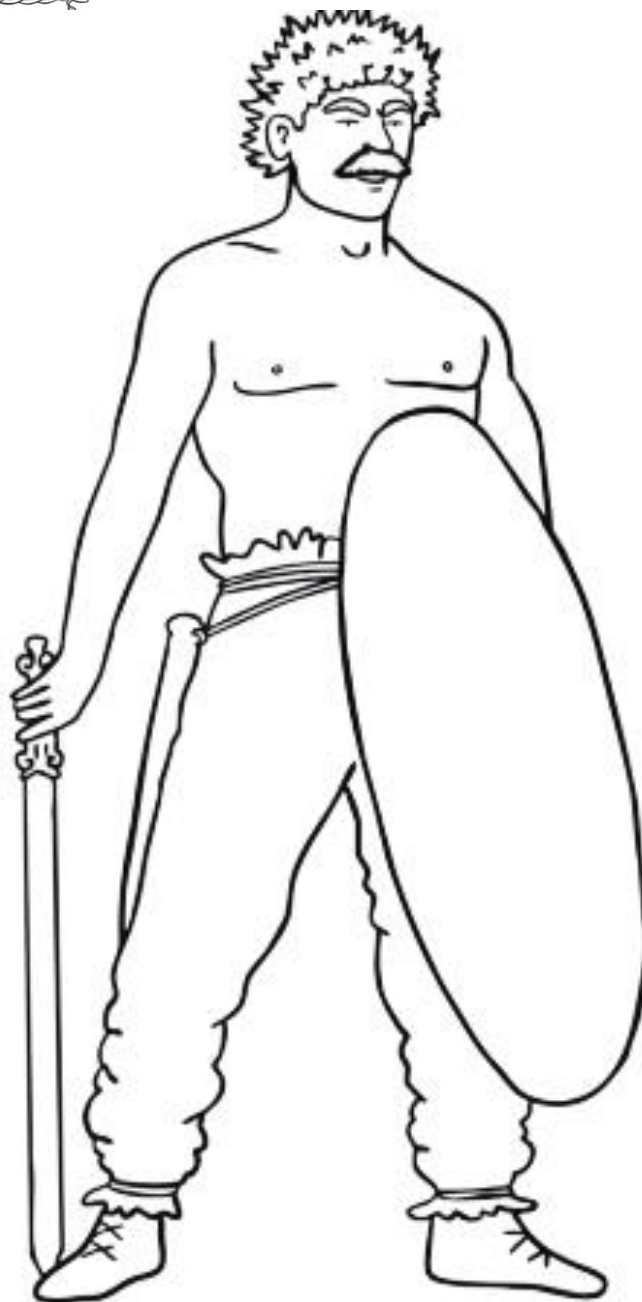
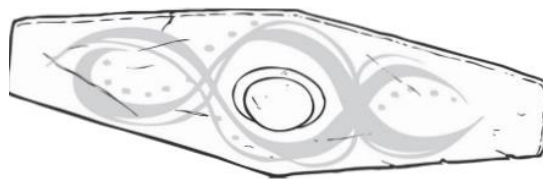
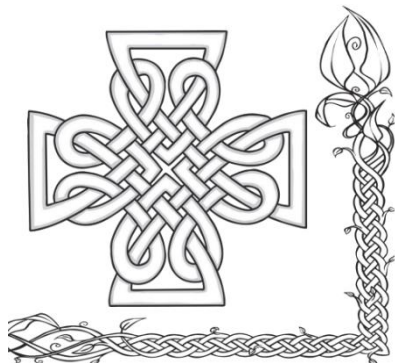
The Celts were fierce warriors. They did not wear armour and often painted their bodies with blue patterns to frighten their enemies. This paint was called **woad**.

They had large shields covered in animal skins and held long spears made from iron which they swung around their heads. They also fought with iron-tipped arrows and daggers.



1. Oval shield
2. Iron spearhead
3. Iron shortsword
4. Iron arrowhead
5. Iron dagger

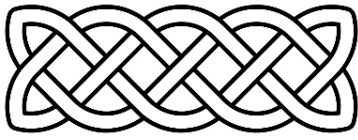
Use the ideas below to create a Celtic pattern and draw it onto the warrior's shield. Then complete the warrior's look with body paint, a design on his sword and a fancy pair of braccæ (trousers).



Celtic Art

Tri-spirals, sometimes called triskele, were an important part of Celtic art. They could be found on shields, cups and carved into stone.





Celtic knots are usually created by endless circles or continuous designs. They are a mixture of straight lines and rounded edges. As Christianity started to spread through Britain during the Iron Age, they were often used on crosses.

Extra Activities

- Here is a BBC video which explains more about how people lived in the Iron Age <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fP13qn6Bbc> (if you can't use the link, you can type BBC Daily Life at home in Iron Age Britain into Google).

- Follow these instructions to make your own Celtic stone art:

You will need: A4 card, tri-spiral template (below), pencil, string, glue, scissors, grey paint, paintbrush

1. Choose whether you are going to work directly on to the tri-spiral template, copy the pattern or design your own pattern.
2. Following the lines of the pattern, add glue to one section of the spiral at a time so that the glue doesn't dry out.
3. Carefully, place the string along the lines that you have glued.
4. Check that the string is stuck down well.
5. Repeat steps 2, 3 and 4 until all the lines have been covered with string.
6. Wait for the glue to dry.
7. Once the glue has dried, paint the entire page in grey paint.

