The Normans in Ireland 1169 AD
The Normans were descendents of the Vikings

Vikings loved to travel in their long ships

Some moved to Northern France to a place called Normandy and they became the Normans

The Normans were powerful soldiers and skilled builders of castles
Ireland in 1166

- Ireland was divided into small kingdoms

- Dermot McMurrough was King of Leinster but he did not have many friends

- The other Kings decided to form an army against him

- Dermot went to England to get help from King Henry

- King Henry sent the Normans to help him
The Agreement

➢ Richard de Clare (Strongbow) was a powerful Norman lord.

➢ He agreed to gather an army of Norman soldiers to help Dermot.

➢ Dermot promised Strongbow his daughters Aoife’s hand in marriage.

➢ Dermot also promised that Strongbow could become the next King of Leinster.
Normans Arrive - 1169
➢ Dermot met the Normans at Bannow Bay, Co. Wexford.

➢ Together they marched on and took over Wexford town, Waterford City and Dublin.
Have you been listening?!

➢ How did the Normans get their names?
➢ Who was King of Leinster?
➢ Why did he go to England?
➢ What was the agreement?
➢ In what part of Ireland did the Normans land first?
Norman Castles

- When the Normans captured an area they built castles for protection against the Irish
- First they built castles made of wood
- These were called motte and bailey castles
Motte and Bailey Castles

- A keep (wooden house) was built on top of a small hill of earth - Motte
- The Bailey was a open space in front of the motte
- A wide ditch surrounded the motte and bailey. (moat)
- Servants, craftspeople, soldiers and farmers lived in the bailey.
- There was also a garden and stables and sheds for animals.
Stone Castles

- Eventually the Normans began to build stone castles instead of motte and bailey castles.

- Can you think of any reasons why?

- Think about - Protection, weather in Ireland, risk of fire.
Stone Castles

Kings Johns Castle, Co Limerick
Stone Castles

Bunratty Castle, Co. Clare
Stone Castles

➢ The Normans were skilled builders

➢ How do you think they brought stones to the castle?

➢ Normans were carpenters, stonemasons, stone cutters.

➢ Do you know anyone that works as a carpenter?
Have you been listening?!

- What were the first Norman castles made of?
- What were they called?
- Why did the Normans build stone castles?
- What was kept in the Bailey?
- Can you name the closest Norman castle to our school?
Changes the Normans brought

- They brought many farming ideas to Ireland that we still use today.
- Normans divided the land into fields and changed the crops they grew each year. Eg. Wheat grown one year, barley the next.
- They knew how to make hay by saving grass in the Summer and drying it.
- Irish people knew nothing about making hay until the Normans came.
Changes the Normans brought

- New towns built up around Norman castles, Trim, Drogheda, Dundalk.

Trim, Co. Meath
Changes the Normans brought

- Many Irish names come from the Normans
  Surnames- Cusack, Fitzgerald, Roche, Fitzpatrick
  Christian names- Eileen, Eamon, James, Geraldine.

Are any of these names in our class or school?

- By the end of the 1300, Normans controlled most of Ireland
- Most had intermarried and became just like the Irish people
Have you been listening?!

- What changes did the Normans bring to farming in Ireland?

- Well Done!!