

Iron Age / The Celts

Appearance

Iron The metal the Celts brought to Ireland

A Brat Cloak

Leine A tunic like a shirt

Crois A belt

Lime The Celts used it to dye their hair blonde

Ruam A blusher used by men and women

Society

Tuath Kingdoms in Celtic Ireland

The Deirbhfhine The royal family/ Extended family of chieftain

Tánaiste: Deputy or heir to chieftain

Celtic Festivals Bealtaine / Lúnasa / Samhain / Imbolg, etc.

Aos Dana People with special skills

Druid A Celtic priest

File A poet

Brehon A Celtic judge

Housing

Rath A fort built on bank of earth

Caiseal A rath made of stone

Crannog A house built on an artificial island in a lake

Quern Wheat was ground into flour between two stones

Ogham Writing on stones

Wattle and Daub Woven branches covered in mud

Souterrain: Underground passage

The Celts

The Celts were warrior farmers from Central Europe. They introduced Iron as a metal into Ireland. They were organised into kingdoms or Deirbhfhine based around the family. Their wealth was calculated by the number of cattle they owned.



Defence was the most important thing to think about when decided to build a home. They chose hilltops to build raths so as to keep lookout or crannogs in the middle of lakes which were hard to reach. Their houses were made of wattle and daub which is woven branches

covered in mud. They made flour for bread by crushing wheat in a quern.

The Aos Dana were people in Celtic Society with special powers such as the File (poet), Brehon (judge) and Druid (Priest). Ogham was a form of Celtic writing which were markings on a stone.

Appearance was very important to the Celts. They dyed their hair blonde using bleach and put Ruam on their cheeks. You were fined if you got too fat! They wore a Leine which was a long tunic like shirt with a crois or belt.



The Celts were pagans. They had many gods and the druid was a pagan priest. They would have made sacrifices to the gods and we have found bog bodies which is evidence of the sacrifices. They celebrated festivals such a Bealtaine (May Day) and Samhain (Halloween) which are still celebrated today.