

Marine Academy Primary, Trevithick Road, St. Budeaux, Plymouth PL5 2AF  
T: 01752 213939 W: <http://www.marineacademy.org.uk/primary/>  
E: [primary@marineacademy.org.uk](mailto:primary@marineacademy.org.uk)

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Marine Academy Primary **Year 4** pupils,

Each term, we send you a letter to let you know what your child will be learning about in each subject. This term, Year 4 will be learning about **Vikings** in their **History** lessons and will find answers to the following questions before using their knowledge to produce an end of unit piece:

1. Why did the Vikings invade Britain?
2. What happened at Lindisfarne in 793?
3. Why did Alfred sign a treaty with Guthrum?
4. Were the Vikings the first Europeans to discover the Americas?
5. Who were the Norse Gods?
6. Did King Cnut try to stop the tide from coming in?



The Vikings came from all around Scandinavia (where Norway, Sweden and Denmark are today). They sent armies to Britain around the year 700AD to take over some of the land, and they lived here until around 1050. Even though the Vikings didn't stay in Britain, they left a strong mark on society – we've even kept some of the same names of towns. They had a large settlement around York and the midlands, and you can see some of the artefacts from that today. A knowledge organiser, sharing all of the information that the children will learn about in their History lessons, is attached. Please feel free to use this with your child to develop their knowledge and understanding at home.



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In **Science**, children will learn about adaptations. They will study the adaptations that animals have to survive in a hot/cold environment. The children will explore the adaptations that nocturnal animals possess and they will learn about how living organisms are adapted to live underwater.

In **English**, the children will be learning about Myths and Legends through the text 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' by Joe Todd-Stanton and explanation texts using the 'Book of Bones 10 Record-breaking Animals' by Gabrielle Balkan and Sam Brewster. While in **Whole Class Reading** sessions, they will be studying 'How to Train Your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell.



In **Maths**, children will learn about decimals, money and time. In **RE**, the children will explore the question 'How and why do people mark the significant events of life?' and in **SMSC** (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education) the children will learn about 'Being My Best'.

In **Art** lessons, the children will be applying knowledge of colour mixing and painting techniques to create a painting, while in **Spanish**, they will recall their previous learning on colours, animals and food and will learn to ask and respond to questions such as 'What do you want?' and 'I want...'.  


In Computing, the children will be designing and creating a game on Scratch, using the programming skill of repetition.



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This term, PE will take place on Thursdays - children should wear their PE kit to school on this day please.

If you ever have any questions about this learning, please email [year4@marineacademy.org.uk](mailto:year4@marineacademy.org.uk). We are really looking forward to another great term ahead!

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Louise Impey

Miss Chloe Whitby

Teacher

Teacher



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| Knowledge Organiser – Vikings – Year 4 |   |
|--|---|
| Vocabulary                             | Definition  |
| <b>raid</b>                            | A surprise attack with the aim of stealing things. Vikings would raid homes and even monasteries to steal as much as they could. However, not all Vikings were raiders.                                       |
| <b>invade</b>                          | To enter a country by force with large numbers of soldiers in order to take possession of it.   |
| <b>Scandinavia</b>                     | The group of countries where the Vikings came from which includes Denmark, Norway and Sweden.   |
| <b>Lindisfarne</b>                     | An island in the north east of England that was invaded by the Vikings in the year 793.   |
| <b>Pagan</b>                           | A religion that the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons followed in which they believe in many gods.   |
| <b>Danelaw</b>                         | The Land which King Alfred agreed to give to the Vikings. Here they followed their own laws - not the Anglo-Saxon ones. The most important city in the Danelaw was York (or Jorvik as the Vikings called it). |
| <b>Danegeld</b>                        | Money paid to Vikings to try and stop them invading and raiding.  |



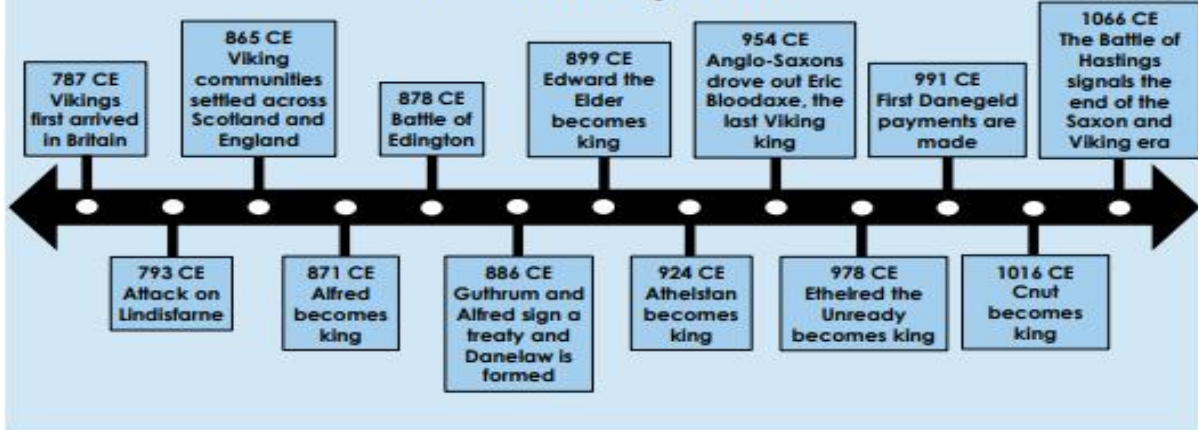
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## Knowledge Organiser – Vikings – Year 4

### Timeline of key events



### Important People

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>King Alfred the Great</b>     | King of Wessex from 871 to 889, defended Wessex from the Viking conquest.  |
| <b>King Guthrum</b>              | King of the Vikings in Danelaw who signed a treaty with King Alfred.   |
| <b>King Ethelred the Unready</b> | Became King at 7 years old. He introduced an official agreement known as Danegeld with the Vikings.  |
| <b>King Cnut</b>                 | King of England, Denmark and Norway. He ruled England from 1016 to 1035. One famous story about him tells how he stood on the shore and tried to get the tide to turn. |
| <b>Leif Erikson</b>              | Icelandic explorer who was the first European to set foot in North America.  |

