

Monday 20th April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Marine Academy Primary **Year 5** 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 5 will be learning about the **History of Plymouth**, with the topic 'Plymouth: A City of Voyage and Discovery' and will find answers to the following questions before using their knowledge to write a 'visitors' guide' at the end of term:

1. What are the Origins of Plymouth?
2. Why was Plymouth important in Tudor times?
3. Why did The Mayflower voyage from Plymouth to the New World?
4. What is the Strategic Importance of Plymouth?
5. What makes Plymouth historically unique?
6. What makes Plymouth 'A City of Voyage and Discovery'?



The City of Plymouth has a rich Naval and maritime history, with records dating from the early 13th century. The children will learn about Plymouth's history from the city's earliest known inhabitant, dating from 140,000 BCE, through the merging of three towns, to the importance of the city in Tudor times with the defeat of the Spanish Armada and links to the slave trade. Children will also learn about the voyages made from Plymouth including the Pilgrim Fathers' departure to the New World to the more recent expeditions of Captain James Cook, Charles Darwin and Sir Francis Chichester all made from Plymouth. 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.

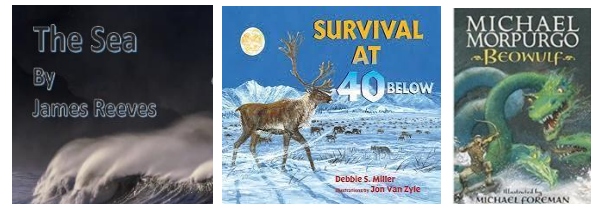


Marine Academy Primary, Trevithick Road, St. Budeaux, Plymouth PL5 2AF
 T: 01752 213939 W: <http://www.marineacademy.org.uk/primary/>
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In **Science**, the children will learn about Humans and Animals over time. They will investigate evolution, considering the evidence that fossils can provide. The children will also consider the impact of humans on organisms in the future.

In **English**, the children's writing will be based on 'The Sea' by James Reeves and 'Survival at 40C Above/Below' by Debbie Miller. In their **Whole Class Reading** lessons, they will be studying 'Beowulf' by Michael Morpurgo.



In **Maths**, the children will learn about shape, as well as position and direction. The 'Shape' unit will consist of calculating the area of rectilinear shapes and will also feature some coverage of angles.

In **RE**, the children will explore the question 'What do Christians believe Jesus did to 'save' people?' and in **SMSC** (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education) the children will learn about 'Being My Best'.



In **Art** lessons, the children will be developing their drawing skills by sketching Plymouth based landmarks that represent the city's historical significance. Next, they will create a monument that is significant to their lives.





the university school

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

If you ever have any questions about this learning, please email year5@marineacademy.org.uk. We are really looking forward to another great term ahead!

Yours sincerely,

Mr Callum Cuzner

Miss Victoria Hansford

Teacher

Teacher



Registered Address: Ted Wragg Multi-Academy Trust, Cranbrook Education Campus, Tillhouse Road, Cranbrook, Exeter, England, EX5 7EE.
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Knowledge Organiser – Maps Relating to the History of Plymouth

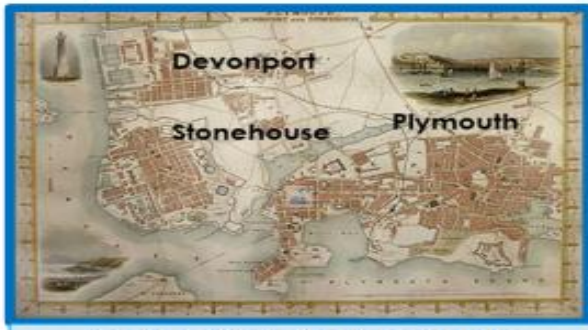
Historians use historical maps to show movements of peoples, ancient boundaries or how a modern landscape interacts with the older underlying detail. Maps can help us learn about history. Old maps can show us where to find places that may no longer exist today. Maps can also tell us about what *kinds* of places existed in the past.



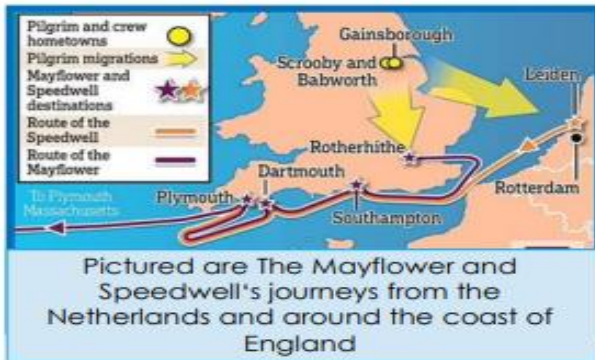
A depiction of Sutton (1540)



Map of modern Plymouth (2022)



The three towns that merged to become Plymouth (1851)



Pictured are The Mayflower and Speedwell's journeys from the Netherlands and around the coast of England



The route of The Mayflower – Plymouth to Cape Cod (1620)

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Knowledge Organiser – Key Vocabulary



Key Vocabulary	Definition
Inhabitant	- a person or animal that lives in or occupies a place.
Settled	- start living in a place permanently.
Strategic	- relating to the gaining of overall or long-term military advantage.
Established	- having existed for a long time and therefore generally accepted.
Embarked	- go on board a ship.
Ancestry	- one's family or ethnic descent.
Provisions	- supply of food or drink.
Fortifications	- a defensive wall or other reinforcement built to strengthen a place against attack.
Defences	- something that provides protection against attack from enemies.
Artillery	- very large guns that are moved on wheels or metal tracks.
Circumnavigation	- the action of sailing all the way around the world.
Domination	- a controlling influence.
Legacy	- an impact that will last long after you die.
Naturalist	- an expert in or student of natural history.
Cartographer	- involved in developing and producing maps.





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