

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

Tuesday 6th January 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 **Anglo-Saxons and Scots** in their **History** lessons and will find answers to the following questions before using their knowledge to write an essay at the end of the term:

1. Who were the Anglo-Saxons?
2. How do we know about the Anglo-Saxons?
3. What was life like for Anglo-Saxons?
4. What did the Anglo-Saxons believe?
5. How was Anglo-Saxon Britain ruled?
6. Who was Alfred the Great?



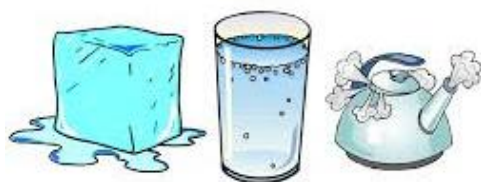
The Anglo-Saxons came to England after the Romans left in the year 410. Nobody was really ruling all of England at the time – there were a lot of little kingdoms ruled by Anglo-Saxons that eventually came together as one country. The country was divided up into a lot of smaller kingdoms and sub-kingdoms that often fought with each other and against any invaders who tried to take over. By the 800s, there were four main kingdoms in England: Northumbria, Mercia, East Anglia and Wessex. A knowledge organiser sharing all of the information – including key facts, a timeline and a map – 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**, the children will learn about states of matter. They will compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases and will observe that some materials change state when heated or cooled.

In **English**, the children's writing will be based on the poem 'Beachcomber' by George Mackay Brown and the biography 'Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World' by Kate Pankhurst. In their **Whole Class Reading** sessions, they will be studying 'Planet Omar: Accidental Trouble Magnet' by Zanib Mian.



In **Maths**, children will learn how to measure and calculate area and perimeter using their multiplication and division skills. In **RE**, the children will explore the question 'How do festivals and worship show what matters to Muslims?' and in **SMSC** (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education) the children will learn about 'Keeping Myself Safe'.



In **Computing** lessons, the children will learn about audio production, where they will produce podcasts about school news. In **Art**, they will be creating mixed media pieces featuring drawing, collage and printmaking. In **Spanish**, they will be asking and answering questions in different topic areas and will learn some more word classes. This term, **PE** will be on Friday and your child can wear their PE kit to school.

If you ever have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak to their class teacher or email year4@marineacademy.org.uk. It promises to be an exciting term!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Louise Impey

Miss Chloe Whitby

Teacher

Teacher



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Knowledge Organiser – Anglo-Saxons - Year 4

Vocabulary	Definition
Anglo-Saxon	The name given to the Angles, Saxons and Jutes who invaded England.
Celts	The people living in Britain before the Romans arrived, who then became known as Britons.
Picts	People who lived in Pictland (known as Scotland today) .
Scots	People who lived in Ireland, and who went on to invade and settle in what we call Scotland today.
Angles	People who invaded England from Angeln – an area in what we now know as southern Denmark and northern Germany.
Saxons	People who invaded England from Saxony – an area in what we now know as northern Germany.
Dark Ages	The name that used to be given to the period of time from when the Roman Empire ended up to the Battle of Hastings. It is called The Dark Ages because there isn't much written evidence from this time so historians cannot be sure about exactly what happened during this time.

Important People

Vortigern	A king who was known for inviting the Saxons to Britain to stop the invasions of the Picts and Scots and allowing them to take control of the land.
Gildas the Wise	A British monk who wrote a book about life during Anglo-Saxon Britain. However, it is difficult to know how much of it is true.
Bede	A monk who wrote a book about the history of the English church and people.
King Offa	King of Mercia, and most of England in mid 8th Century.
Alfred the Great	The most famous of Anglo-Saxon kings who achieved a lot of 'great' things during his reign, including good laws, building more schools and creating the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle which provides us with lots of information about the time.

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Knowledge Organiser – Anglo-Saxons - Year 4

Timeline of key events during the Anglo-Saxon era

