

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 2nd September 2025

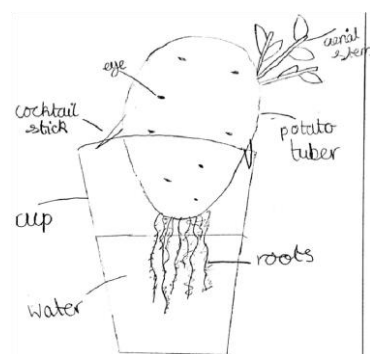
Dear Parents/Carers of Marine Academy Primary **Year 3** pupils,

To kick start the children's time in Year 3, this term they will be learning about **Prehistoric Britain** in their **History** lessons and will find answers to the following questions before using their knowledge to produce an end of unit piece at the conclusion of the term:

1. How do we know about life in the Stone Age?
2. Which animals lived during the Ice Age?
3. What were the different periods in the Stone Age?
4. What was life like in a Stone Age settlement?
5. How did the Bronze Age change how humans lived?
6. Who were the Celts and what was life like for them?



The story of prehistoric Britain began when the first humans arrived in Britain. The earliest were hunter-gatherers then gradually, people learned new skills such as farming and then later discovered the secrets of making bronze and iron. Prehistoric people couldn't read or write, but they were astonishing builders. Their tombs, forts and monuments have survived for thousands of years. A knowledge organiser sharing all of the information – including key vocabulary, a timeline and key facts – that the children will learn about in their History lessons is at the bottom of this letter. Please feel free to use this with your child to develop their knowledge and understanding at home.



Practical Skills are the focus for **Science** this term. This unit prepares the children for their Key Stage 2 Science lessons. They will learn the skills they'll need for each stage of a scientific investigation, including knowledge of variables, diagrams, methods, collecting and presenting data and drawing conclusions.

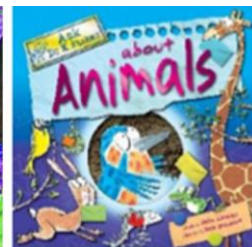


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In **English**, the children will be learning about the texts *Ratpunzel* by Charlotte Guillain and 'Ask Dr K Fisher About Animals' by Claire Llewellyn, while in **Whole Class Reading** sessions, they will be studying 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura and 'Amazing Grace' by Mary Hoffman.

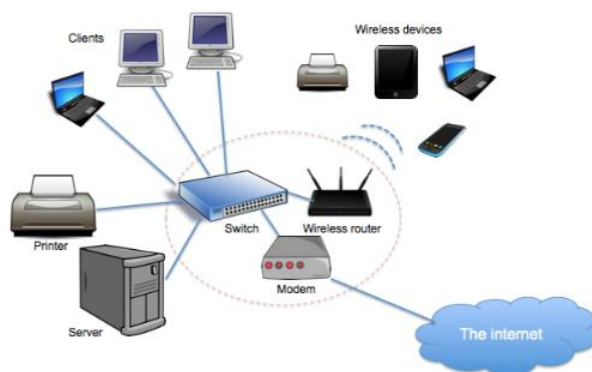


In **Maths**, children will learn:

- To count from 0 in multiples of 4, 8, 50 and 100.
- Find 10 or 100 more or less than a given number.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a three-digit number (hundreds, tens, ones).
- Compare and order numbers up to 1000.
- Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations.
- Read and write numbers up to 1000 in numerals and in words.

In **RE**, the children will explore the question 'What do Christians learn from the Creation story?' and in **SMSC** (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education) the children will learn about 'Me and My Relationships'.

In **Computing** lessons, the children will be learning about the topic 'Connecting Computers'. In this topic, children will learn what input and output devices are, how they are used and how to use them efficiently. They will also learn that computer networks allow data to be transferred and shared and that the Internet is a large network that enables computers to share information. Finally, the children will investigate and make choices on which program is best for a given task.



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In **Art**, they will be learning about Prehistoric artwork and experiment with using media such as charcoal and paint. While in **Spanish**, they will start with phonics and learning the vowels first, learning the numbers 1-10 and how to give their age. They will also be learning the names of items that might be found in their pencil case, reading rhyming stories, singing songs and practising tongue twisters! In **PE**, they will be learning to play tag rugby and this will usually be on a Thursday.

If you ever have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak to their class teacher or email year3@marineacademyprimary.org.uk. We are really looking forward to another great year ahead!

Yours sincerely,

Miss Autumn Widdison

Teacher

Ms Olivia Godbeer

Teacher



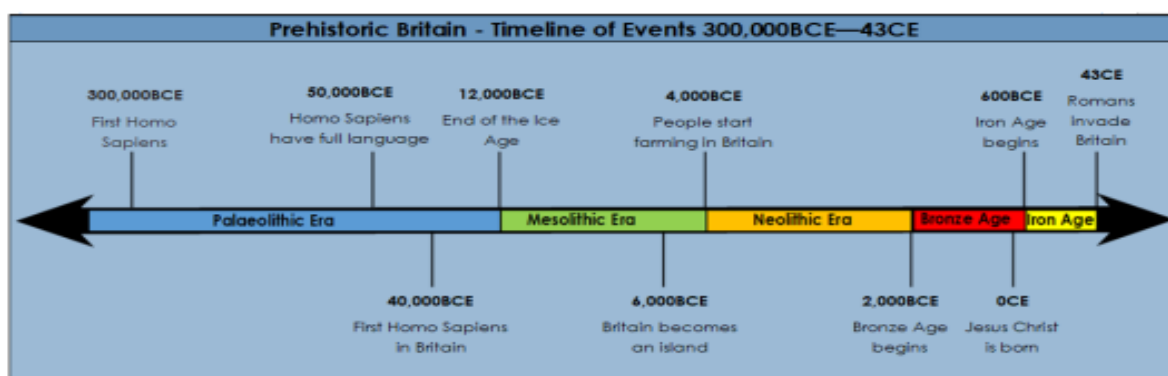
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Knowledge Organiser – Prehistoric Britain - Year 3

Vocabulary	Definition
Homo sapiens	The scientific name for humans.
Neanderthals	Another type of human. They are now extinct.
The Ice Age	A very long period when the Earth was extremely cold.
Palaeolithic Era	The early Stone Age. Humans used very basic tools.
Mesolithic Era	The middle Stone Age. Humans perfected their tools.
Neolithic Era	The new Stone Age. Humans began farming.
Extinct	Animals that used to be alive but no longer exist.
Torc	A piece of bronze jewellery.
Era	Clear period of time in history.
Bronze	The first metal humans used.
Iron	A metal that is harder and stronger than bronze.



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Knowledge Organiser – Prehistoric Britain - Year 3

Prehistoric Animals



Woolly Mammoth (Extinct)

Woolly mammoths lived during the last ice age, and they may have died off when the weather became warmer and their food supply changed. Humans may also be partly responsible for their disappearance due to hunting. Although the word "mammoth" has come to mean "huge," woolly mammoths were probably about the size of African elephants.



Woolly Rhinoceros (Extinct)

The woolly rhinoceros was a relative of today's rhinoceros. It had two huge horns on its snout and a thick fur coat. After the most recent ice age ended about 11,700 years ago, this mammal became extinct.



Elk (Extant)

The Irish elk, commonly referred to as giant deer, is one of the largest deer species that ever lived. Scientists estimated that these massive creatures stood about 7 feet tall at the shoulders on average, weighed well over 1,600 pounds, and carried the largest antlers of any known deer species. The species was found widely across Europe, Asia, and Africa and it is believed that hunting by humans may have played a part in their decline.

Stone Age Tools



Hand Axe

A hand axe is a prehistoric stone tool with two faces that is the longest-used tool in human history. It is usually made from flint or chert.



Hammer Stone

A hammer stone is a hard cobble used to strike off lithic (rock) flakes from a lump of tool stone during the process of lithic reduction. The hammer stone is a rather universal stone tool which appeared early in most regions of the world including Europe, India and North America.



Spear

Both Neanderthals and prehistoric humans hunted with stone tipped spears. (Scientists have made the interesting discovery recently that ancestors to modern man began hunting with spears tipped with sharpened stones 500,000 years ago. The discovery shows that our ancestors were hunting with spears 200,000 years earlier than we previously believed.)

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Knowledge Organiser – Prehistoric Britain - Year 3



Map of Europe during the Ice Age



Map of Europe now

Britain in the Ice Age

The last Ice Age was around 22,000 years ago when much of Europe was covered in ice. During the Ice Age, which ended about 11,500 years ago, ice covered nearly half of the land in the world.

In Britain, glacial ice and waterflows spread as far south as the Bristol Channel. Average temperatures were 5°C (8°F) colder than they are today, allowing a thick sheet of ice to cover much of the country.

The temperature remained below 0°C all year round in northern regions, particularly Scotland, allowing the sheet to remain on the land. Ice connected Britain with Scandinavia, allowing a host of large wildlife to roam free between the UK and mainland Europe.

During this period Britain would have seen the likes of woolly mammoths, giant deer and wolves roaming its icy planes. Much of Britain was covered in perpetual ice, which meant that it was uninhabitable for humans.



Britain during the Ice Age

The Three Stone Age Periods

2.5 MILLION YEARS

PALEOLITHIC

OR

OLD STONE AGE

15000 YEARS AGO

MESOLITHIC

OR

MIDDLE STONE AGE

11000 YEARS AGO

NEOLITHIC

OR

NEW STONE AGE



3



Communication Access UK
Inclusive communication for all



Quality Mark
EARLY YEARS
AWARD



National Support School
designated by



Artmark
Platinum Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

