Year 5 – Owls

Over the Sea & Far Away

Autumn 2 2026

Topic Overview:

Our topic this half-term is called **Over the Sea & Far Away**. We will be learning about the Mayflower – it's passengers, their motivations, the voyage, outcome and legacy. There will be a focus on our local History and the connection between Billericay and the Mayflower. In addition, we will be looking at geographical aspects as well – locations, maps and settlements.

Hook:

We will be investigating the Mystery of Roanoke Island, and trying to discover what happened to the European colonists who vanished. Did they simply die from natural causes? Did they flee from disease or danger? Or were they captured?



Outcome:

For our topic 'outcome' we will be exploring the traditions around Thanksgiving, including some cooking with Mrs Bennett.



What's being covered?

Maths	Multiplication & Division, Fractions	
English	Explanations, Finding stories, Crown Cinquains	
	Topic	Skills
History	**Over the Sea & Far Away – The Mayflower**	Chronological Understanding • accurately use dates and terms to describe historical events Presenting, Organising & Communicating • Present, communicate and organise ideas about the past using detailed discussions, debates and more detailed written narratives Historical Interpretations • Find and analyse a wide range of evidence from the past • Start to understand the difference between primary and secondary evidence and start to question its reliability Historical Investigations • Select relevant sections of information to address historically valid questions and construct detailed, informed responses Historical Vocabulary • Continue to build a bank of appropriate historical vocabulary and use this to talk about the past and communicate information Knowledge & Understanding of Events & People in the Past • Describe the key features of the past, including attitudes, beliefs and the everyday lives of men, women and children Continuity & Change • Understand that there are times in history when change happens suddenly and these moments can be referred to as "turning points" in history
Geography	**Over the Sea & Far Away – The Mayflower**	Locational Knowledge: • Identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere and use longitude and latitude to find locations on a map Human and Physical Geography • Human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water
DT	**Cooking**	• understand how ingredients are reared and processed • make adaptations to design a recipe • evaluate nutritional content • practise food preparation skills • design a product label • follow and make an adapted recipe
Music	**Jazz**	• build on their knowledge and understanding about how swing and jazz music is created • listen to and discus different pieces of jazz and swing music • develop glockenspiel skills • create and compose using jazz and swing rhythms
Science	**Materials: Properties and Changes**	Knowledge • Determine the hardness of materials and link this to their uses • Determine the transparency of different materials and link this to their uses • Determine the conductivity of different materials and link this to their uses • Demonstrate reversible changes • Demonstrate irreversible changes Working Scientifically • Evaluate a test and determine the degree of trust in the results

		• Plan and draw a table of results • Write a detailed, organises method that is easy to follow • Write a prediction using prior knowledge of the states of matter • Analyse observations and use them to support a conclusion • Measure accurately
Computing	**Touch Typing** **Our Online Lives: How do we thrive online?**	• Develop keyboard fluency • Increase typing speed • Enhance accuracy • Integrate touch typing with other computing skills • Identify the warning signs of unhealthy behaviour • Identify the risks of group chats • Explain why things online can affect our mental health • Give advice on how to thrive online
PSHE	**Connecting with other: why are healthy relationships important?**	• Describe how our identities are influenced by different factors • Understand what commitment means and how it is shown in family relationships • Identify different ways that families can support and protect each other • Evaluate healthy and unhealthy friendships • Develop and apply positive ways to respond to friendship challenges • Reflect on what assertive communication looks like and why it is important
French	**Town and Time**	• Recognise and say numbers up to 50 • Recognise and say places in town • Recognise and tell the time
RE	**How has belief in Christianity/ Islam impacted on music and art throughout history?**	• Show awareness that talking about religion and belief can be complex. • Explain how beliefs impact on and influence individual lives, communities and society, and how individuals, communities and society can also shape beliefs. • Describe ways in which beliefs shape the way Christians/Muslims view the world in which they live and how they view others.
Indoor PE	**Fitness**	Explore and develop: • Speed and agility • Strength • Balance and co-ordination • Stamina
Outdoor PE	**Tag Rugby**	• Develop understanding of attacking and defending principles of invasion games • Throwing and catching skills • Passing and running with the ball • Use a backwards pass effectively • Work as a team • Dodge to create space