

Yew Tree Primary Academy – History

Theme: History of Music on Merseyside (Merseybeat)

Year Group : 6

Phase: Key Stage 2

Strand: Pupils should be taught about an aspect of local history

What should I already know?

- The Mersey river finishes at Liverpool Bay, flowing into the Irish Sea.
- The docks along the River Mersey was popular store for valuable cargoes such as brandy, cotton, tea, silk, tobacco, ivory and sugar.
- Today, the Royal Albert Dock is a major tourist attraction in the city and the most visited multi-use attraction in the United Kingdom, outside London.
- Liverpool is a city, in the borough of Merseyside, in the North West region, In England.

Vocabulary

city	a large town. London is a city.
country	an area of land that is controlled by its own government.
county	a region of Britain or Ireland which has its own local government
forged	to make
melodic	pleasant sounding and having a melody
Merseybeat	after bands from Liverpool and nearby areas beside the River Mersey, is a popular music genre, influenced by rock and roll and traditional pop music, that developed in the United Kingdom in the early 1960s.
movement	a group of people working together to move forward a shared political, social or artistic idea
music scene	Is a community with a shared interest is a particular style of music
promotor	A person or company that funds or organises events
tourist	a person who is visiting a place for pleasure and interest, especially when they are on holiday.

In 1962, Mersey Beat held a poll to find out who were the most popular Merseyside group. The results were announced on 4 January 1962:

1. The Beatles
2. Gerry and the Pacemakers
3. The Remo Four
4. Rory Storm and the Hurricanes
5. Johnny Sandon and The Searchers
6. Kingsize Taylor and the Dominoes
7. The Big Three
8. The Strangers
9. Faron & The Flamingos
10. The Four Jays
11. Ian and the Zodiacs
12. The Undertakers
13. Earl Preston & The TTs
14. Mark Peters and the Cyclones
15. Karl Terry and the Cruisers
16. Derry and the Seniors
17. Steve and the Syndicate
18. Dee Fenton and the Silhouettes
19. Billy Kramer and the Coasters
20. Dale Roberts and the Jaywalkers



What historical Knowledge should I know by the end of this theme?

- Merseybeat:** It was the dynamic music scene of Liverpool between 1958-64 that equally forged The Beatles and a movement that Mersey Beat magazine helped establish.
- Merseybeat is a light, highly melodic style of Beat Music. Merseybeat groups had simple guitar-dominated line-ups, with close vocal harmonies and catchy tunes. The resulting sound is chirpy, bouncy and simplistic, drawing influences from Rock & Roll and British Rhythm & Blues. The release of The Beatles' "Love Me Do" in October 1962 is an important focal point for the huge popularity of the sound
- The 'British Invasion' of music followed The Beatles success in the USA, with bands such as Gerry and The Pacemakers, Billy J. Kramer With The Dakotas, The Searchers, The Merseybeats and The Fourmost achieving consistent success in the charts.
- Mersey Beat was a music magazine in Liverpool, England in the early 1960s. It was founded by Bill Harry, who was one of John Lennon's classmates at Liverpool Art College. The magazine published news about all the local Liverpool bands, and stars who came to town to perform.
- The paper released its first edition on 6 July 1961, selling out all 5,000 copies.
- The magazine was a huge champion of the city's most famous band- The Beatles. In years to come, The Beatles would reward its support with worldwide exclusives and regular interviews - they even wrote a few pieces that were published in the magazine.
- A misunderstanding of the Merseybeat movement however, is that The Beatles created it. Although after the departure of The Beatles from Liverpool, the movement came to an end.
- Between 1958 and 1964, the Merseyside area had about 500 different groups, which were constantly forming and breaking up, with an average of about 350 groups playing concerts on a regular basis.
- In 1962, Mersey Beat magazine held a poll to find out who were the most popular Merseyside group.
- The results were announced on 4 January 1962, with The Beatles in first place.
- An iconic symbol of the Mersey Beat era was the poster artwork created by local artist Tony Booth. He was a popular figure amongst the promoters in the area where he was commissioned to create hundreds of the posters used to advertise all the concerts that were occurring during that period. His posters were seen on walls all across Merseyside including some of his famous work outside The Cavern Club.
- The Cavern Club is a nightclub and music venue on Mathew Street in Liverpool. The Cavern Club opened in 1957 as a jazz club, later becoming a centre of the rock and roll scene in Liverpool in the early 1960s. The club became closely associated with Merseybeat and regularly played host to the Beatles and other famous bands of the of the time

Tony Booth's advertisement



The Mersey Beat First edition



Literacy Tree Links



The Cavern Club Timeline

1950S

The history of the Cavern Club begins on Wednesday 16 January 1957 when the doors opened for the very first time to the warehouse cellar venue at 10 Mathew Street, Liverpool...

1960S

In early 1960 the Beat Music scene in Liverpool exploded and the Cavern Club became the most published pop music venue in the world...

1970S

The 1970s started with another change of ownership. The historic standing of the Cavern Club didn't cross British Rail enforcing its closure in 1973...

1980S

The Cavern Club is back at 8-10 Mathew Street, an authentic and evocative location that attracts visitors, audiences and bands from across the world.

1990S

In the 1990s, Cavern City Tours became the new owners of the Cavern Club and found a balance between paying homage to the rich musical legacy of the Cavern...

2000S

During this decade the Cavern Club celebrated its 50th year and Liverpool became European Capital of Culture...

2010 - PRESENT DAY

The Cavern Club continues to celebrate the past, present and future

What Historical skills will I have learnt by the end of this theme?

- I can use sources of information critically to reach and support conclusions.
- I can examine and explain the reasons for, and results of, events and changes.
- They select, organise and deploy relevant information to produce structured work, making appropriate use of dates and terms.