



Year 2 History Knowledge Organisers



Y2—Autumn Term- Fire and Light

The Great Fire of London

The Great Fire of London happened in 1666. The fire started in Pudding Lane in the King's Bakery. Some people think the ovens were left on and this started the fire. The fire spread quickly and destroyed a lot of London. The houses were close together and most were made from wood so this helped the fire spread.

Fire services never used to exist so people had to try and put the fire out! They used buckets filled with water but were unable to battle the flames. The Duke of York (the future King James II) ordered that houses be destroyed using gunpowder ahead of the fire to stop the fire from spreading even further. This plan succeeded and by Thursday, the fire had been extinguished.



Guy Fawkes and The Gunpowder plot

Guy Fawkes was born in 1570 in York, England. He joined a group that wanted to use gunpowder to blow up the Houses of Parliament in London, killing King James I and his government. 'The Gunpowder Plot' group was led by Robert Catesby.

King James had different religious beliefs to Guy Fawkes and his group. They felt that the King was treating them unfairly.

King James wanted to celebrate because he survived the planned attack. He officially made the 5th of November Bonfire Night in Britain. Straw dummies were burned to show that no one could get away with hurting the king.

Samuel Pepys

Samuel Pepys (pronounced Peeps) (1633 – 1703) was a famous diarist and writer. Much of what we know about this time comes from Pepys' diary. He recorded the spread of the fire, people's reactions to it and what he did.



Florence Nightingale

Florence Nightingale was born in 1820 and died in 1910. She became a nurse and helped soldiers who were hurt in the war. She is known as the 'Lady of the Lamp' because she carried a lamp with her when she checked on her patients in the night. She is famous because she changed the way hospitals look after patients and she changed the way that people thought about nurses. In the past nurses were not trained and people thought only male doctors could look after patients. She opened a nursing school called the 'Nightingale Training School for Nurses'.



Vocabulary

chronological order– In time order, starting with the oldest to the most recent event. Timelines are made in chronological order.

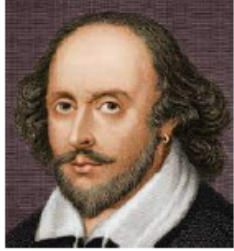
era/period– A length of time.

treason– A crime that betrays the king/country.

traitor– A person who betrays someone or something.

Gunpowder Plot– A failed attempt to blow up King James I and parliament.

Y2—Summer Term—Shakespeare



William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare was a famous poet, playwright and actor. He wrote many plays including Romeo and Juliet and A Midsummer Night's Dream. Stratford-upon-Avon is the town where William Shakespeare was born and is buried. Shakespeare was born during the Tudor period when Elizabeth I was queen.



Shakespeare's birthplace,
Stratford-upon-Avon

Monarchs

A monarch is someone who rules over a place, like a king or queen. When William Shakespeare was born, Elizabeth I was the Queen of England! Did you know we still have a monarchy today and have a new King of England? There have been lots of famous kings and queens of England! Here are just a few:



• **Queen Elizabeth I** - Elizabeth I was Henry VIII's daughter. She reigned during what was known as the 'Tudor' period. She was a strong queen. Many people in Tudor England thought she would be weak because she was a woman but she reigned for 45 years and kept England safe from invasion. She never married or had any children so when she died the Tudor era ended.

• **Queen Victoria**—Queen Victoria reigned for 63 years! She was the first monarch to live in Buckingham Palace. The Victorian Age was named after Queen Victoria. In this time, lots of buildings, factories and new inventions were made!



• **Queen Elizabeth II** - Elizabeth II is the longest reigning British monarch. She was on the throne for 70 years and celebrated her Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Unfortunately, she died in 2022 and there was a big funeral in London to remember all of her hard work for her country.

• **King Charles III**—King Charles (Elizabeth II's son) is the current King of England! This year he will be coronated. This is a special ceremony to give him royal power and a crown will be put on his head.



Key Vocabulary

Playwright—Someone who writes plays.

Heir— A person who will inherit (get) money, property or the title of king/queen when someone else dies.

Throne— The position of the king or queen. A throne is a special chair that someone royal would sit on.

Reign— To rule over a country as a monarch.

Monarch— A person who rules over a place, usually a king or queen.