Boldon School
INNOVATE: FOCUS: ACHIEVE

Knowledge Organiser

Year 7 History Half Term Two and Three

Week One: *Norman Conquest and control*

Harrying of the North - Some English people rebelled against William. The biggest rebellion was in the north of England in 1069. It was led by Edgar the Atheling who, as the only son of Edward the Exiled, who had a blood-claim to the throne. William defeated the rebellion but he still didn't trust the English people. In the north-east of England, from 1069 to 1070, he ordered villages to be destroyed and people to be killed. Herds of animals and crops were burnt. Most people who survived starved to death. Not only was the population reduced by 75% but land was salted (poisoned) to prevent people growing crops.

Extension QR Codes – read the information on the BBC Bitesize and complete the 'Test-to-Self' Quiz. Watch an episode of Horrible Histories featuring Genghis Khan

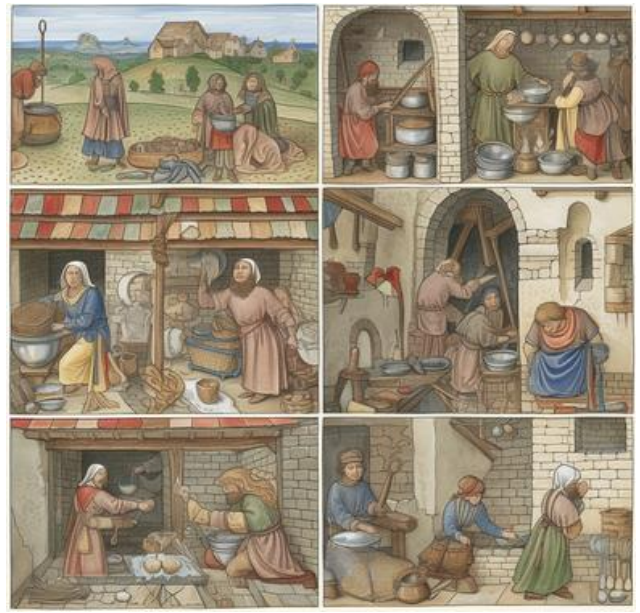
Week Two: *Genghis Khan*

Genghis Khan was the renowned leader and founder of the Mongol Empire. He married at the age of 16, although he had several spouses during his life. At the age of 20, he began raising a vast army with the goal of uniting Northeast Asian tribes under his reign. His cavalry captured a larger territory and more people in a quarter-century than the Romans did in four centuries. Genghis Khan was the embodiment of evil to the millions of people he subjugated, yet he was venerated in Mongolia and Central Asia.

Week Three: *Medieval life*

Life was very tough for those at the bottom of the feudal system. They worked long hours from dusk till dawn on their farms. They would not be able to leave their land as they were 'owned' by the knights and barons . Peasants diet often consisted of breads, vegetables and stale meats. Ale was the drink of choice and often lived in small, one-room huts made of wattle (sticks woven together) and daub (the binding 'glue' – often animal dung! Those higher up the feudal enjoyed diets including wine, red meat and fish. The lives of women were very much 'traditional' – they cooked, cleaned, did housework and raised the children.

Medieval Democracy King John I signed the Magna Carta (Great Charter) in 1215 after the barons threatened to rebel against him. Limited his power for the first time. The Provisions of Oxford signed in 1258 by King Henry III after barons led by Simon de Montfort threatened war. Created the first ever 'Parliament' in Britain.



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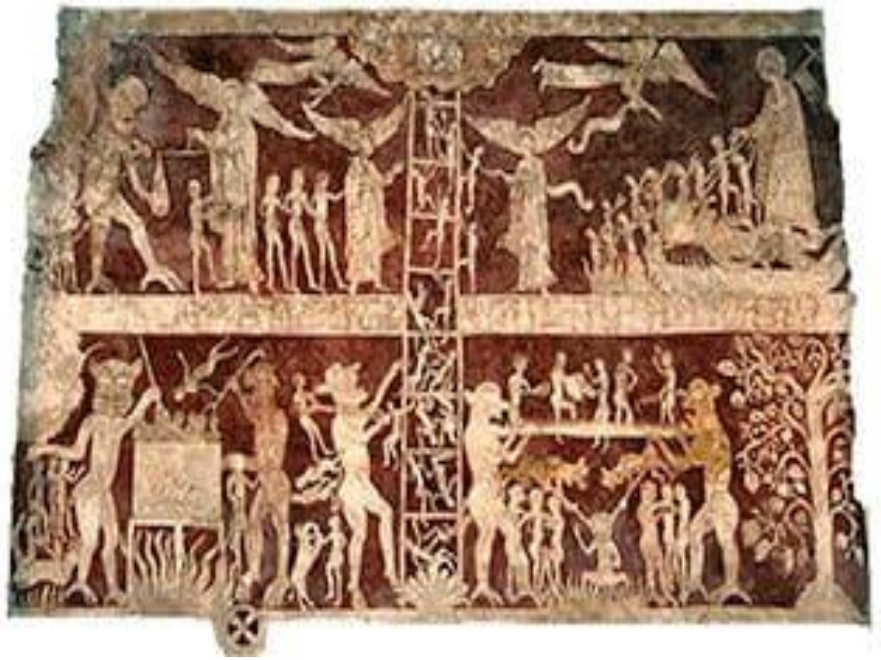
Week Four: *Medieval Religion*

The Catholic Church: -Christianity existed in England before the Norman invasion in 1066. However, the Normans cemented the power of the Catholic Church in England. -By 1100, most countries in Europe followed Roman Catholicism(they were Catholic). -Other major religions during this period were Muslims (Islam) and Jews (Judaism). -The Catholic Church worked across countries and it had a very clear hierarchy, starting with the Pope and ending with priests in villages and towns. -There were also Catholic monks and nuns. These were people who lived apart from other people and who dedicated their lives to God and Catholicism. -The Pope was seen as God's representative on earth. As a result he could not be questioned. -The Catholic Church was extremely rich. It owned a huge amount of land and received money through the tithe.

Heaven, Hell and Purgatory: -Life after death was very important to people during the Middle Ages. -Christians believed that if you followed the Church's rules and led a good life, you would go to heaven. -If you didn't follow the Church's rules or lead a good life, Christians believed that you would go to purgatory or hell. -Most people during the Middle Ages could not read or understand Church services (they were in Latin). -Doom Paintings were used to help people to understand and to show them what would happen if they didn't follow the church's rules.



An example of a medieval doom painting, showing the joys of heaven at the top and the horrors of hell at the bottom.

The roles of the Church in society

The Church produced and stored books(the printing press would not be invented until the 15thcentury). They copied religious texts and other important books, like medical textbooks. They had control over which knowledge would be preserved. Most schools in the Middle Ages were run by the church. Monasteries and nunneries would offer basic medical care and prayers for the sick, they would offer somewhere for travellers to stay and would gives alms to poor people. -1 in every 20 people in the Middle Ages worked within the church.

Key terms

Tithe: A 10% tax which people had to pay to the Church. It could be paid in money, seeds or equipment. **Purgatory**: A place which Catholic believe in. This is between heaven and hell and is where people 'burn off' their sins before they can enter heaven.

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Week five: *The Black Death*

The Black Death (1348-9)

In 1348 the Black Death arrived in England – people were terrified as no one understood how this new killer disease spread and it is estimated that 40% of the population died. There were two forms of plague. The bubonic plague which caused victims to grow buboes over their body. Pneumonic plague was a deadlier type of plague which affected suffers lungs and had a 100% mortality rate. Measures were put in place to try and deal with the plague but because no one knew what its cause was most measures put in place did not help.

Causes : God deserting mankind/ unusual position of the planets/ impure air from a volcano or earthquake/ the Jews

Treatments Ask for God's forgiveness/ bleeding/ purging/ strong smelling herbs/ theriaca/ lancing buboes Prevention Pray/ Pilgrimage/self-flagellation/ escape!/ carry a posy of flowers/ do joyful things!/ quarantine laws

Extension QR Codes – read the information on the BBC Bitesize and complete the 'Test-to-Self' Quiz. Or watch the Lucy Worsley Investigates BBC.

Short term	Long term
Half the people in Britain died from the Black death. More died in later outbreaks of the disease.	The Black death led to some freemen earning higher wages.
Food prices went up by 4 times as animals and crops died with no one to look after them	The Black Death lasted from 1348-1350. Later outbreaks did occur, but they were less severe.
An estimated 35 million people, two thirds of the world's population, died from the disease.	After the Black Death people demanded freedom but lords refused. This led to the Peasants Revolt in 1381.
Landlords made less money as they had less people to charge rent.	The government tried to stop peasants getting higher wages in 1351 with a law called the Statute of Labourers.
Praying to God hadn't saved people from the Black death so some people began to criticise the bishops. This had little impact. Most people remained deeply religious.	It took 300 years for the population to recover to the same level as before the Black Death.
As there were less people alive after the Black Death, survivors could charge more for their services. Wages increased.	By the mid-1400s everyone was free.

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Week six: *The Peasant Revolt*

Timeline of Events

Mid May 1381	A Tax Collector attempts to take tax from the people of Fobbing, Kent. The collector, Thomas Bampton, was dismissed by the villagers, led by Thomas Baker. The argument that followed became a riot. The Revolt had begun. Other villages followed. John Ball, who had been imprisoned in April 1381 was freed from prison by rebels at some point after the initial riots.
7th June 1381	Wat Tyler is appointed leader of the rebels in Kent.
7th to 12th June 1381	The Peasants Revolt was a march through Kent and from Suffolk towards London.
12th June 1381	The Peasants arrive outside the City of London. It is believed that there were around 30000 people following Wat Tyler by this point, with riots taking place elsewhere.
14th June 1381	Richard II meets Wat Tyler at Mile End. Tyler tells Richard II what the Peasants demands are. Richard agrees and signs charters granting the peasants the freedoms that they had demanded. Most of the Peasants leave once Tyler has received the Kings charter.
14th June 1381	A group of armed Peasants enter the Tower of London. They find and execute the Kings Treasurer, The Archbishop of Canterbury and another senior official. They find the young Henry of Lancaster but spare him due to his age: he later becomes King.
15th June 1381	Richard II sends a message to Tyler asking for a further meeting, at Smithfield. Tyler and his men meet Richard. Tyler makes more demands. The Mayor of London gets involved in an argument with Tyler. Tyler appears to wave something in the direction of the King and the Mayor stabs him, as do guards. With Tyler dead, Richard asks the rebels to leave London. He personally leads them away from the scene to diffuse the situation.

Consequences of the Peasants Revolt

- 23rd June 1381 Richard II withdraws all of the charters that were agreed with Wat Tyler.
- 5th July 1381 The rebels from Fobbing are executed. In the weeks that follow some 1500 rebels are executed.
- 13th July 1381 John Ball is captured. He is tried for treason the following day. Found guilty he was hung, drawn and quartered on 15th July 1381.
- All the unpopular taxes were abolished and the King stopped fighting with the French.
- Within 50 years many of the Peasants were allowed to buy their freedom and so could move about the country without restriction

Week 7: *Crime and Punishment*

Crime and Punishment in Medieval Britain

The King was in charge of law in the land (the King's Peace) but he relied on individuals to enforce this: Hue and Cry – villagers hunting for the criminal. Parish Constable – led the Hue and Cry. Sheriff + posse – King's agent in each county Coroner – investigated deaths. Courts – Royal Court, Church courts. Medieval punishment was often used to deter (put off) criminals: Execution – hanging or being hung, drawn and quartered for treason. Fines, Public humiliation – stocks and pillory.

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Medieval England Key Terms and timeline

King's Courts	Law courts which were controlled by the King and his justice.
Church Courts	These were controlled by the church for religious offences and for any crimes committed by the clergy.
Archbishop of Canterbury	The head of the Church in England. He was appointed by the Pope
Magna Carta	The document that King John was forced to sign by the barons in 1215 that limited some of his power.
Black Death	The disease that affected England from 1348 onwards. It is estimated that it killed 40% of the population.
Bubonic Plague	The more common Plague that was carried in the bloodstream of rats. Fleas bit the rats and become infected. They then hopped onto humans, bit them and passed on the disease.
Pneumonic Plague	This was more deadly. It was caught by breathing in the germs when an infected person coughed or sneezed. They would cough up blood and their lungs rotted inside them.
Freeman	These people paid rent to the lord to farm their land, but they weren't 'owned' by the Lord, and could come and go as they pleased.
Villein	They were Medieval peasants who were 'tied' to the Lord's land. They had to farm their own land and the land of the Lord, and they had to get the Lord's permission to do things like get married or leave the village.
Statute of Labourers	This Statute (law), passed after the Black Death, said labourers could not earn more than 2 pence per day. It was bitterly resented by the peasants.
Poll tax	Introduced by King Richard II to pay for the Hundred Years War. Everyone had to pay 4p every year – later increased
Peasant's Revolt	A popular revolt in 1381 against the rule of Richard II, his advisors and taxation led by Wat Tyler.

First Crusade
1095-1099

Magna Carta
1215

Peasants' Revolt
1381

Norman Conquest
1066-1080s

Death of Thomas Becket
1172

Black Death
1348-1350