

## Topic 3a knowledge organiser: Key question: What was life like when the monarchy was restored in England?

### Lesson 1: Why did the monarchy return in 1660?

Key words for this lesson:

**Interregnum:** Period between kings

**Regicide:** Killing a king

**Lord Protector:** The title of the person in charge of England when there was no king

When Oliver Cromwell died, his son, Richard, did not want to be Lord Protector. It was therefore decided to ask Charles the First's son, Charles the Second to become King of England. This returning of the monarchy was called the Restoration. The interregnum was significant as this was the only time England has not had a monarch. There were stricter laws in place that many disliked by the end and England was ruled by a Lord Protector for the first and only time. However in the end these changes were not to remain and by 1660 Charles II was asked to return and the monarchy was restored and England still has a king today.

### Lesson 2: Why was Charles II known as the 'Merry Monarch'?

Key words for this lesson:

**Restoration:** The return of the monarchy to Britain

**Illegitimate:** If the king had a child with someone other than his wife, they could not become king or queen.

**Sleazy:** Corrupt or immoral

Charles II had no children with his wife, the queen, however had 14 **illegitimate** children. As they were not from the royal marriage, they were deemed illegitimate. When Charles II died, his brother James became King of England. Charles reversed a lot of the changes of Cromwell, bringing back sports and entertainment. He also attended **frost fayres** when the River Thames froze over. This led to the nickname 'The Merry Monarch.' He wanted to continue with many religious freedoms enjoyed under Cromwell but he fell out with Parliament over this.

### Lesson 3: How Deadly was the Great Plague??

Key words for this lesson:

**Symptoms:** The things that show you have the illness. For example a cold's symptoms are sneezing and runny nose

**Bubonic plague:** People got buboes, which were black boils on their armpits or groin.

**Miasma:** The belief that poisoned air was making people ill.

There was an outbreak of Plague in 1665. People developed fever, sickness and black lumps called **buboes**. People believed **miasma**, (poisoned air) punishment from God and the **alignment** (positioning) of the planets was to blame. People didn't understand germs so instead resorted to 'plague water,' chewing tobacco and trying to sweat it out. Some tried bursting buboes. It's believed 100,000 Londoners and half a million of England's population died of it.



### Lesson 4: Was the Great fire of London an accident or arson?

Key words for this lesson:

**Arson:** Deliberately starting a fire on purpose.

**Fire breaks:** Pulling down buildings to make a gap so fire cannot spread.

**Scapegoat:** When the blame for an event is placed on a group or person to take all of the blame.

**The Great Fire of London in 1666:** It started in Thomas Farriner's bakery in Pudding Lane. It went on for three days, destroyed 13,000 homes and 88 churches. It was difficult to organise **fire breaks** as people did not want to lose their homes. People said the fire was deliberately started (arson) by a foreigner or a Catholic. A Frenchman called Robert Hubert was made a scapegoat (he was made to take the blame) for the fire, even though the evidence suggested he couldn't have been there at the time.

### Lesson 5: What were the consequences of the Great fire of London?

Key words for this lesson:

**Architect:** Someone who designs buildings.

**Baroque:** A style of building, music, dance, art and sculptures from the C17th.

**Sewer:** Underground tunnels that allow sewage to be taken away.

**Insurance:** People pay money and if their property is damaged, it will be replaced

Architects like Christopher Wren and Robert Hooke helped redesign the city to have broader (wider) streets and made of bricks. Christopher Wren even helped design St Paul's Cathedral. Insurance companies also started up to help people if houses were damaged by fire.

