

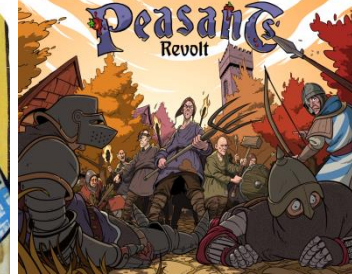
Year 7 History: Medieval Black Death and The Peasants' Revolt Knowledge Organiser

Chronology, events and people.

Most people in medieval England were **Christian** and **Catholic**; they believed that anything bad that happened was a punishment from God.

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 sufferers 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.

Afterward the Black Death there was a labour shortage and peasants asked for higher wages. However, laws were passed putting wages back down to pre-Black Death amounts. On top of this King Richard II introduced the **Poll Tax** to pay for wars with France. Rich and poor had to pay the same amount, so some people got very angry and rebelled under the leadership of John Ball and Wat Tyler in the **Peasant's Revolt** of 1381. At first it appeared that the king would agree to their demands, but Tyler was killed and other leaders were hunted down after the crowds had dispersed.



Key words

Baron or lord –an important person who looked after land for the king.

Black Death –a contagious, killer disease, spread by fleas on black rats.

Buboe –a dark and painful swelling that was a symptom of the **Black Death**.

Bubonic – a type of plague where the victims grew boils under their arms or on their groin

Peasant –ordinary, poor farmer who owned little or no land and worked for their lord.

Poll Tax –a tax that everyone had to pay; everyone had to pay the same amount regardless of what they could afford.

Pneumonic – a type of plague which affected sufferers lungs.

Revolt – going against your king (or government)

Key dates

1216	Henry II becomes king
1327	Edward III becomes king
1348	The Black Death arrives in England
1377	Richard II becomes king
1381	The Peasants revolt