

# Knowledge Organiser for Middle Ages – The Rise of parliament, the UK and people power 1199 - 1485

## Overview

This unit will look at the first moves in the creation of the UK. It will also look at shifts in power. Parliament comes into being and grows in power, the people become more powerful due to the Plague and the impact this has on the Feudal system, and the Royal Family will tear itself in two in a civil war.

## Key figures

John I



Henry III



Edward I



Robert the Bruce



Samuel Pepys



Wat Tyler



Richard II



Henry VII



## Key questions

- Why is King John remembered as a terrible king? Is this fair?

- How important was the Magna Carta to the development of British political system?

- Why was Henry III so important to the development of parliament?

- Why were England and Edward I able to conquer Wales in the Middle Ages?

- Why were England unable to take control of Scotland in the Middle Ages?

- Why was the Black Death so significant to British society?

- Why was the Peasant's Revolt unsuccessful?

- Why were the Wars of the Roses important?

## Timeline

**1199 – 1216** – The Reign of King John, including the sealing of the Magna Carta in 1215

**1216 – 1272** The Reign of Henry VIII including the Provisions of Oxford in 1258, and the first time the country was a Republic since the Norman invasion and first-time parliament called with Lords and local representatives (1265)

**1272 - 1307** – The Reign of Edward I, including England conquering Wales (1277-1283) and briefly taking charge in Scotland.

**1314** – Battle of Bannockburn for Scottish Independence under Robert the Bruce

**1348**– The Plague hits England in the reign of Edward III

**1381** – Peasant's revolt against Richard II

**1455-1485** – Wars of the Roses

## Key words

**Magna Carta** – Document that reduced power of the King for the first time since the Norman invasion and the first step on the road to parliament and democracy in England.

**Interdict** – A period in which the Pope has shut the Church in a particular country

**Parliament** – A group of representatives of the nobility and the people that helped govern the country from 1265 and is now sovereign in the UK (runs the country).

**House of Lords** – Representative of the nobility and the Clergy that was the most important governing body until the **House of Commons** (representatives of the people) became more powerful at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

**Conquest** – One State taking control of another primarily through the use of force

**Independent** – The position of a State being free from control by another State or in common speech it is an adjective that describes somebody who has freedom of thought and action

**The Plague** – A deadly disease cause by the Yersinia Pestis bacteria that was also termed The Black Death

**Buboes** – huge boils that result from getting the plague

**Curfew** – a legal limit on the time people are free to do as they please

**Plague pit** – where bodies were dumped after people died from the Plague

**Quarantine** – The separation of sick people from the general population

**Revolt** – violent uprising

**Dynasty** – a line of hereditary leaders in a country

**Longbow** – a highly effective bow for archers, used extensively during the Hundred Years War

**private army** – an army run by a Lord not a king

