



# THE GREAT PLAGUE 1665-1666 (AUTUMN 2)

YEAR 4

**1603** - Bill of Mortality continuously used in London.



**February 1665** - The outbreak of the plague began in London.

**June 1665**- Plague spreads to the village of Eyam.

**November 1665**- No more plague in Eyam.

**December 1665** - Recorded death rate for year is 68,596. More have expected to die than this.

**November 1605** - The Gunpowder Plot.

## LINKS IN THE CURRICULUM:

Year 1 - The Great Fire of London of 1666  
Whole School - Shakespeare topic

**May 1665** - 43 people die of the plague.

**July 1665**- 17,036 people died from the Plague in July.

**December 1665** - People who fled London begin to return.



**September 1666** - The Great Fire of London

## KEY VOCABULARY

<b>Plague</b>	A contagious bacterial disease
<b>Bubonic plague</b>	A disease that affects the lymph nodes
<b>Buboes</b>	Painful swelling on the neck, armpit or groin area
<b>Pneumonic plague</b>	A disease that affects the lungs
<b>Septicaemic plague</b>	A disease that affects the blood. Body parts turned black (Black Death)
<b>Plague doctor</b>	Helped people who had the plague, wearing distinctive, protective clothing
<b>Contagious</b>	Passed from one person to another by contact
<b>Fleas</b>	Tiny parasitic insects
<b>Epidemic</b>	A disease that spreads more quickly and more extensively
<b>Mortality</b>	Death on a large scale
<b>Peasant</b>	A poor person who lives in the country
<b>Quarantine</b>	Isolation (being alone) because of a disease
<b>Eyam</b>	A town in Derbyshire, in the Peak District

## Key Facts:

- Before 1666, London was filled with cramped alleyways, wooden houses and infested with rats.
- Streets were crowded, as people were trading, fetching water or using the toilet.
- The Great Plague was spread by fleas that travelled on rats. They infected humans and humans infected each other.
- Symptoms were: coughing, fever, headache, buboes, chills, vomiting and skin turning black.
- Ring-a-ring-a-rosy is a popular nursery rhyme that has many links to the Great Plague.
- The London Mortality Bill was used to monitor the deaths in London continuously from 1603.
- Eyam, a village in Derbyshire, the Peak District, became infected with the Great Plague from some material. As the infection spread, William Mompesson decided that the village would need to quarantine to stop the spread of the disease. It took 4 months for the spread to stop.