

Willow Tree Academy - Year 4- The Plague (1665-1666)

Key Knowledge

The Bubonic Plague also known as **The Black Death**, was a disease carried by infected **fleas** living on **rats**. The deadly disease began spreading in **London**, in the poor and overcrowded parish of **St.Giles-in-the-Fields** in **February 1665**. By July 1665, 17,036 Londoners had died from this disease.

In August 1665, **The Plague** reached the Derbyshire village of **Eyam**. A flea-infested bundle of cloth arrived from **London** for the local **tailor's** assistant, **George Viccars**. Unfortunately, **George Viccars** was the first person to die from **The Plague** in **Eyam**.

The Eyam **Rector**, **William Mompesson** met with **Thomas Stanley** to decide upon a plan to prevent the spread of the disease. They chose to **quarantine** the village.

Despite this, the disease continued to spread throughout **Eyam** killing **260** villagers out of a **population of 350**.



The Plague 1665-1666 Timeline of Events

February 1665

The outbreak of the plague returned to London for the second time after the 1345 outbreak.

July 1665

The plague was rampant. King Charles II of England and his family left London and fled to Salisbury.

August 1665

The plague reached the Derbyshire village of Eyam.

November 1665

Deaths in Eyam appeared to have slowed as it was believed that the fleas were killed by the cold weather.

September 1666

On 2nd September 1666, a fire broke out in Pudding Lane near London Bridge, now known as The Great Fire of London. It destroyed 80% of the city, thereby stopping the spread of the plague.

November 1666

On 1st November, Abraham Morten became the last of the 260 people to die from the plague in Eyam.

Key People

King Charles II - The King of England during the outbreak of The Plague. He left London for Salisbury to avoid the disease.

William Mompesson - The Rector of Eyam who decided to quarantine the village.

Catherine Mompesson - Married to William Mompesson. Catherine died from The Plague in August 1666.

Thomas Stanley - The Rector of Eyam from 1660-1664. He helped William Mompesson decide how to best protect the village.

George Viccars - The tailor's assistant who became the first person to die from The Plague in Eyam on 7th September 1665.

Alexander Hadfield- The local tailor who employed George Viccars. He died from The Plague on 3rd August 1666.

Mrs Hancock - A notable figure who buried six of her children and her husband close to the family farm. This spot is now known as *The Riley Graves* and is part of the National Trust.

Margaret Blackwell- Claimed that drinking bacon fat and therefore vomiting led her to become plague-free.

Marshall Howe- The local grave digger who helped families bury their loved ones.

Vocabulary

Bubonic- A disease which can cause sickness, fever and swelling.

Contagious- Able to be passed on from one individual to another.

Disease - A condition that impairs the proper function of the body or one of its parts.

Outbreak- A sudden occurrence or increase of something.

Pandemic- Occurring over a wide geographic area and affecting a high proportion of the population.

Population- The whole number of people living in a country, city or area.

Rector- The leader of a Church is known as a Rector.

Remedy- A medicine or treatment that cures or relieves pain.

Symptom- A noticeable change in the body or its functions that indicates the presence of a disease.

Tailor- Someone who makes clothes.

Quarantine- Where a group of people are separated from the general public and have to stay in one place, not having contact with anyone else.

Important Places in Eyam

The Boundary Stone- Where food and supplies were left for villagers.

Riley Graves- Where Mrs Hancock buried her family.

Mompesson's Well- Used alongside the Boundary Stone.

Eyam Parish Church- Where William Mompesson would hold his services.

Cucklet Delph- Open-air services were held here to prevent the plague from spreading..

The Plague Story Window

This can be found in Eyam Parish Church. It tells the story of the Plague in Eyam and it features key characters including William Mompesson, Thomas Stanley and George Viccars.



Literacy

- Narrative - Linked to class text *Children of Winter*.
- Instructional Writing - How to make your own posie bag.
- Newspaper Report - The Plague hits Eyam.
- Diary entry - Writing in the role of a child in Eyam during the plague outbreak.
- Playscripts - Write a play set in the time of the plague in Eyam, including all key characters.

Immersive Reading Text

Children of Winter- Berlie Doherty

Computing

E-Safety update -

The dangers of social media, keeping personal information private.

Digital Literacy -

Using email and Book Creator.

Computer Science -

Sketchup - 3D image- Recreating the village of Eyam.

Music

Rotherham Music Service (*Drums, violins, clarinets, ukulele, trumpets*)

Art & Design

- Plague Story Window Art using paints and acetate.
- Looking at Art from local artists. (Picture This link to the work of Joe Scarborough) Recreate image of Eyam using Joe Scarborough's style.

DT/STEM

- Sewing - Making own plague cottage.
- Clay- Recreating key landmarks in Eyam.

Maths

- Statistics - Analysis of deaths in Eyam linked to The Plague.
- Area and Perimeter - Map work focusing on key places in Eyam.
- Coordinates - Linked to Eyam map work.
- Time (With a focus on Roman Numerals) - Linked to sundial outside Eyam Parish Church.
- Measures - Making own posie bags, linked to instructional writing and DT.
- Shape (3D Shapes) - Plague cottages linked to DT.

Big Question - What would you be willing to sacrifice for others?



PSHCE Personal Safety - Road safety, swimming safety, sun safety. Effects of drugs (medical and non- linked to The Plague cures)

Relationships - Living and growing DVD, bereavement and loss.

P4C

- The Plague, Samuel Pepys diary, the story of Elizabeth Hancock.

Geography/History

History of The Plague

- Local History of Eyam - Using Google Maps, locate Eyam and key points affected by the plague in 1665-66.
- Eyam map work (linked to Numeracy) plotting key points e.g. The boundary stone.
- Timeline looking at chronology of events, specific focus on the outbreak in Eyam.
- Research and find out about they key figures of History at that time. E.g King Charles II, William Mompesson, Thomas Stanley.
- Discuss the plague first entering Eyam and write a newspaper report (linked to Literacy)
- Flow chart showing plague transmission and its symptoms.

Science

Sound

- What are sounds? Investigating vibrations.
- Explaining how sounds are made.
- How do humans hear sounds? Learning about the different parts of an ear. Comparison between how humans hear vs. animals.
- Investigating sound-proof materials.

PE

- Gymnastics.
- Cricket.

MFL

- Animals.
- Pets and family members.

RE

- Christianity- Worship and pilgrimage.
- Islam- Worship and pilgrimage.