



# History Knowledge Organiser


**Year: 8**  
**Topic: The Tudors**  
**Half term: Autumn 1**

The Tudor royal dynasty began with King Henry VII in 1485 after winning the Battle of Bosworth, and ended with the death of Elizabeth I in 1603.

- Henry VIII 1509 to 1547.**
- Henry is most known for having 6 wives.
  - He created the Church of England to gain more control over the country and to divorce his first wife, Catherine of Aragon.
- Edward VI 1547-1553**
- Henry's only son.
  - Protestant
  - Reigned with a council as he was too young to rule alone.
  - His council persuaded him to name Lady Jane Grey as his successor, over his sisters.
- Mary I 1553-1558**
- Known as 'Bloody Mary'
  - Devout Catholic and sentenced heretics to burn at the stake.
- Elizabeth I 1558-1603**
- Protestant, but allowed Catholics to follow their beliefs.
  - Never married nor had children so the Dynasty ended with her.


**Protestantism**

- Protestantism is a form of Christianity that originated with the 16<sup>th</sup>-century Reformation, a movement against what its followers perceived to be errors in the Catholic Church.



**Catholicism**

- Catholicism is the largest Christian church in the world.
- The Catholic Church celebrate the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church founded by Jesus Christ. One important aspect of Catholicism, is that they believe bishops are successors of Christ's apostles (Protestants do not believe this).



**Black Tudors**

- Miranda Kaufmann's book studies the life of ten Africans who lived during the Tudor period. Dispelling the notion that every Black person in England was a slave during the period.
- John Blanke- A royal trumpeter in the courts of Henry VII and Henry VIII.
- Mary Fillis- a powerful and independent and skilled seamstress who was the daughter of a Moroccan shovel maker. She worked as a servant (not a slave) for a man named John Barker.

**Tudor Society**

- Tudors society was steeped in the medieval tradition in England, yet it also embraced the changing social norms of early modern Europe.
- During the Tudor period people were grouped in a hierarchical system with the King at the top. The nearer to the top of the system you were, the richer you were. If you were born poor there was little chance of you becoming rich. People were taught by the church that their position in life was determined by God.

Key Words	
Reformation	Religious movement which saw the creation of Protestantism
Heretics	A person believing in or practicing the same religion as the country
Devout	Someone who is severely dedicated to their religion
Dynasty	A line of hereditary rulers
Lady Jane Grey	Edward VI's successor and queen for 9 days
Mary, Queen of Scots	Queen of Scotland until her execution at the hands of her cousin, Elizabeth I.

**Homework tasks**

1. Learn the key words and their definitions.
2. Design your own KO using the knowledge gained in your lessons.
3. Choose one of the topics we have covered in this unit and teach a family member. Ask them to write a review of what you have told them.

Submit your homework to your class teacher for achievement points!

**Suggested Reading**

*Black Tudors* by Miranda Kaufmann  
*The Six Wives of Henry VIII* by Alison Weir  
*Lady Mary* by Lucy Worsley