



Off With 'Er Head



Year 5 — Spring 1 — 2026

What's it all about?

This topic explores the Tudor period. We will be looking at England during the Tudor period from 1485 — 1603. Beginning with the Battle of Bosworth and how the Tudor Rose was formed, we will then look at Henry VIII and his 6 wives, the break with Rome and the creation of the Church of England, Tudor entertainment and Shakespeare and his plays. It's going to be lots of fun. We can't wait.



Historians: Come with us as we discover what happened at the Battle of Bosworth and then the uniting of two rival families with the creation of the Tudor Rose. Henry VII passed on the throne to Henry VIII—who is famous for having 6 wives (yes you did read that right!). We will be finding out more about life in Tudor England—such as how they were entertained and the explorers.

Geographers: We will be looking at maps of England to find Tudor places of interest (in particular Hampton Court). We will also be using world maps to plot the routes that the Tudor explorers took.

Readers: We'll be continuing to focus on developing our reading strategies with a particular focus on trying to use a variety of different strategies when reading a text. We will also be building up our reading stamina and speed. We will be encouraging the children to continue to read regularly at home 5 times a week and get their Reading record books signed regularly.

Spellers: Our focused spelling patterns this half-term will be: words ending in -ent, -ence, words with the ee sound spely ei and words from the Year 5 and 6 spelling list.

Writers: We will be reading *Treason* by Berlie Doherty which is a historical fiction book set in Tudor England. We will be writing character descriptions, diary entries, play scripts, historical fiction stories and looking at persuasive writing.

Mathematicians: The maths topics this half-term are: multiplication and division and fractions.

Religion: We will be studying the religion of Islam.

Musicians: We will be listening to some Islamic music and then learning the song Madina.

Science: We will be looking at the human life cycle and how we grow and change both physically and emotionally. Comparing the human life cycle to other mammals and different gestation periods and life spans.

Design Technologists: Developing our designing and creating skills by sewing puppets and then using them to perform our own Tudor puppet shows.

Hermitage Values: The value of the half term is Integrity. We will also be looking at empathy, honesty, decency, trust, truth and compassion.

Family Learning Ideas: Visit Hampton Court Palace to be amazed by the splendour of King Henry VIII's favourite palace. Visit Hever Castle in Kent, which was Anne Boleyn's childhood home. Woking Palace (Henry VIII's stop over)

Trips/in-school visits: We will be visiting Hampton Court on Thursday 12th February. Art week is the week commencing 19th January.

Inspiring Everyone To Learn