Year 8 History – HT1
Why did Charles lose his head in 1649?

1. Keywords

Cavalier	Soldiers who fought for the King
Civil War	A war between people of the same country
Divine Right of Kings	The belief that the King is chosen by God and can do no wrong
Grand Remonstrance	A list of demands given to Charles I from Parliament in 1641, designed to reduce the king's power
Musketeer	A soldier that would use a musket (early type of gun) in battle
New Model Army	The army that Cromwell formed. It was much more organised and disciplined than the King's army
Parliament	Politicians who help govern (run) the country - comprised of the House of Commons and House of Lords
Puritan	A very strict Protestant
Roundhead	Soldiers who fought for Parliament
Royalist	Supporters of the King during the Civil War

4. Impact of the Civil War on society

Families

- ❑ 25% of all males in England were involved in the fighting of the English Civil War
- ❑ 10% of the population were killed and many were left wounded/traumatised
- ❑ Widows strove on to support families
- ❑ Some women fought alongside men

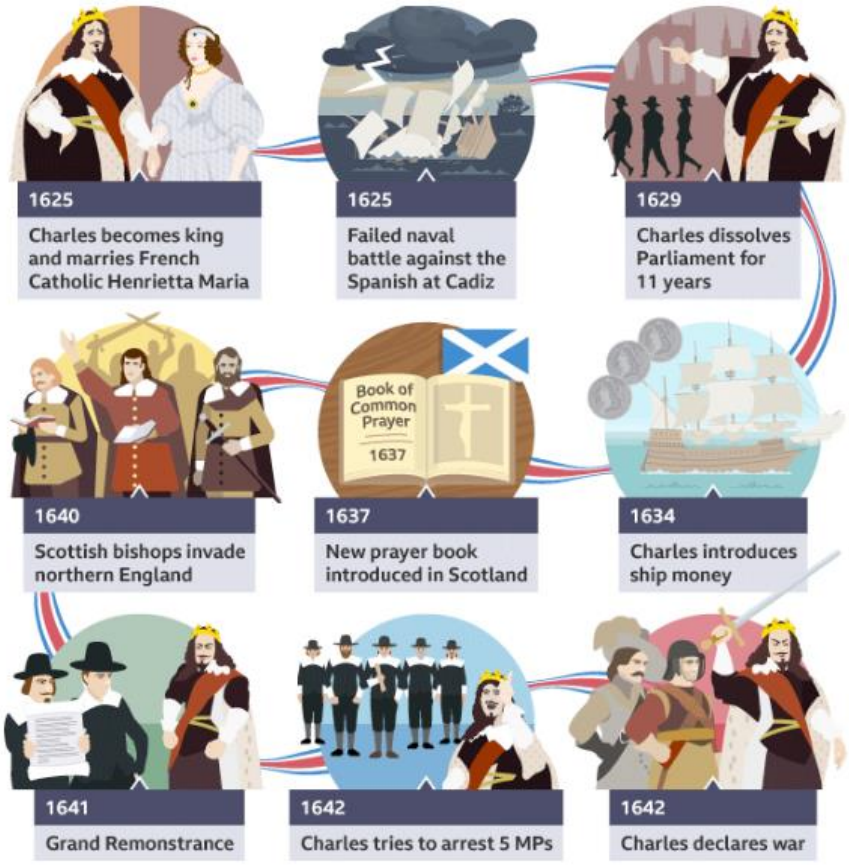
Thinking

- ❑ People like the levellers started to think that everyone in society was equal and the King should listen to them

Cities

- ❑ There was rioting, taxes increased + fortifications

Key events leading up to the outbreak of war in 1642



5. Charles' execution and Oliver Cromwell

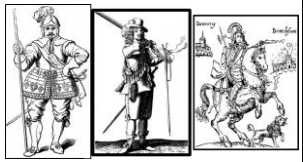
- Charles was **sentenced to death** on **30 January 1649** in front of Banqueting House, London.
- In the morning, he requested an extra shirt, as he did not want to be shivering in the cold; he worried that people would think he was shaking with nerves.
- After his execution, the executioner dropped Charles' head in front of the platform, where members of the crowd dipped handkerchiefs in his blood and cut locks of his hair.
- Following Charles' trial, there was an 11-year period when England was ruled without a monarch. **Oliver Cromwell led England from 1653, taking the title of 'Lord Protector'.**
- **In 1660 the monarchy was restored by Charles II**

3. The opposing armies

King Charles was supported by his army known as the **Cavaliers or Royalists**.

Parliament summoned an army known as the **Roundheads**.

Both armies used a mixture of cavalry officers, musketeers and pikemen to fight across England.



In 1644 Parliament reorganised its army into the **New Model Army:**

- ➢ England's first 'Professional Army'
- ➢ Better led – promotion based on how good they were rather than how rich they were
- ➢ Better disciplined - Severe punishments for indiscipline
- ➢ Better equipped than before
- ➢ Properly paid and better motivated

The New Model Army finally ***defeated Charles at the Battle of Naseby in 1645***.

TIMELINE

1625	Charles I became King of Great Britain Charles married the Catholic Princess Henrietta Maria of France.
1641	Parliament demands Charles agrees to a list of demands (Grand Remonstrance)
22nd August 1642	Charles I declares war on Parliament at Nottingham
1642	Battle of Edgehill
1643	Battle of Newbury
1644	Battle of Marston Moor
1645	Battle of Naseby
1647	Charles is arrested but escapes
30th Jan 1649	Charles I is executed for treason outside Whitehall
16th Dec 1653	Oliver Cromwell makes himself Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England, Scotland and Ireland

Year 8 History at BCA

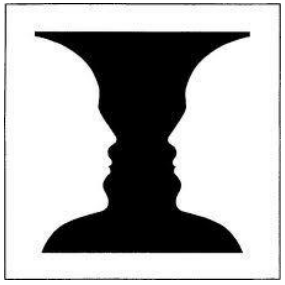
	Autumn		Spring		Summer	
	1 (6 weeks)	2 (7 weeks)	1 (6 weeks)	2 (6 weeks)	1 (6 weeks)	2 (7 weeks)
Year 8	**Civil War**	**Age of Exploration**	**Imperial Century**	**Industrial Revolution**	**Slavery**	**Civil Rights**
Links to	*Rebellion & KS3 King power/Divine Right, The Reformation*	*P2 KS4 (American West), WWI Imperialism and KS3 Slave Trade + British Empire*	*P2 KS4 (American West), WWI Imperialism and KS3 Slave Trade + Age of Exploration*	*WWI and Paper 1 KS4 (Industrial medicine), Slavery and British Empire*	*KS4 American west, Industrial Revolution, British Empire + Civil Rights*	*Human Rights, Equality (PD), Rights - Suffragettes and Slave Trade*
TC	Interpretation	Change and continuity	Consequences	Source skills	Significance	Interpretations

Understanding the curriculum	
Why are we studying this topic?	Students can understand why Charles I's reign caused Parliament to rise up and arrest him for treason. Students will also recognise how this event led to a more equal relationship between monarch and government in later centuries.
How does it link to previous learning?	In Year 7 we learnt how the English Reformation split the Christian Church in Europe and caused tension between Catholics and Protestants throughout the 1500s. This split will be an underlying cause of the English Civil War.
How will it link to future work?	The knowledge based in this unit will allow students to more deeply understand the relationship between monarch and government. It will also develop skills of comparing and analysing different interpretations, an essential skill for KS4.

Threshold concept this term

Good historians think about <u>interpretations</u> of the past

They examine historian's interpretations carefully. They think hard about why people interpreting the past have made particular claims and about the kind of evidence on which they were based. They think about the context in which historical interpretations were created and how this affects them.



BBC Teach website