

History (Y4) – Community Changes Changes in a period in history

Prior Knowledge

- In the past, the monarchy ruled the country and King James I ruled the country in 1605 (Year 1, Autumn Term)
- The Gunpowder Plot was a failed assassination attempt against King James I. The plotters were all Catholics and they thought King James I was being unfair to Catholics (Year 1, Autumn Term)
- The British monarch is the Supreme Governor of the Church of England (Year 1, Summer Term)

Trust

Care

Change

Common Good

Inspire



Why did the Pilgrims go to America?

Key Knowledge

- King James I was the first Stuart King. He ruled in England from 1603 to 1625. Like King Charles III is now, King James I was the Supreme Governor of the Church of England.
- Some Protestants wished to separate themselves from the perceived corruption of the Church of England. They were known as Separatists.
- The Separatist movement was illegal in England during the reign of King James I. Many Separatists were persecuted by the state and its church and so fled England for more tolerant lands. They wanted religious freedom.
- One group of Separatists left England for Holland in 1608. They settled in a city called Leiden.
- In 1620, a group who called themselves The Pilgrims, travelled in a ship called, The Mayflower, to Plymouth, Massachusetts. The passengers included Pilgrims from Leiden, separatists and non-separatists.
- The crossing was long and gruelling. It took 66 days, during which, winter storms and long bouts of sickness affected the passengers. However, only one out of 102 passengers on board died during the voyage.
- Although the passengers had different religious beliefs, they made an agreement on board The Mayflower, deciding on the rules and laws of their new colony. There were 41 male passengers who signed the Mayflower Compact.
- Once settled in Plymouth, they formed relationships with the Native American Wampanoag tribe, forming an alliance to work together and protect each other.

Legacy:

- In 1621, the Pilgrims celebrated their first successful harvest. Only 52 Pilgrims remained. This celebration is the foundation of the Thanksgiving Festival, which is a significant event in American culture today.
- The Mayflower Compact is considered a significant step towards the establishment of democratic principles in America.

Key Vocabulary

protestant	a member of any of the western Christian churches that are separate from the Roman Catholic Church.
separatist	an English protestant in the 16 th or 17 th century who wanted to separate from the perceived corruption of the Church of England
puritan	a member of a group of English protestants of the 16 th and 17 th century. the puritans wanted to reform ('purify') the Church of England.
pilgrim	one of the people who travelled by boat from England to make a home in new England at Plymouth in 1620.
Wampanoag	a native American people.



The Mayflower ship is considered an enduring symbol of hope and renewal, signifying human resilience and the pursuit of liberty.

1607 John Smith founds the Jamestown settlement. Native peoples bring food to help the colonists.

1616 Smallpox and leptospirosis eradicate the entire native population in New England.

1620 The Mayflower brings Pilgrims from Plymouth, UK to Plymouth, Massachusetts.

1620 John Rolfe marries Pocahontas, the daughter of the Powhatan chief.

1621 Squanto helps enact a peace treaty between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag tribe.