

# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School



**Subject: History**

Topic: Gunpowder Plot

Year: 2

## What should I already know?

- What the Tower of London is and how it has changed over time.
- What a Monarch is and the qualities of a good Monarch.
- The similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods.
- Some important British Monarchs and placing these in chronological order on a timeline.

## What am I going to learn?

- The Gunpowder Plot was a plot to kill King James I and his government by blowing up the houses of Parliament.
- Robert Catesby, Guy Fawkes, Thomas Percy and five of their friends were involved.
- Under the rule of James I, Catholics were treated unfairly. The plotters were all catholic and wanted King James removed from the throne.
- A letter was sent to Lord Monteagle, who was due to go to the Houses of Parliament, warning him of the plot. He told the king, who sent guards to search the cellars. They found Guy Fawkes and gunpowder.
- King James I ordered that people should celebrate his survival on the 5<sup>th</sup> November.
- People today still celebrate Bonfire night in memory of the Gunpowder plot and light fireworks and bonfires on this day.



Guy Fawkes



Robert Catesby



Thomas Percy



King James I

## Vocabulary

**Bonfire Night:** 5<sup>th</sup> November is the night on which bonfires and fireworks are lit in memory of the Gunpowder Plot, traditionally including the burning of an effigy of Guy Fawkes.

**Gunpowder plot:** The Gunpowder Plot was a failed attempt to blow up England's King James I and the Parliament on November 5, 1605.

**Gunpowder:** An explosive consisting of a powdered mixture of saltpetre, sulphur, and charcoal.

**Guy Fawkes:** Guy Fawkes was one of the plotters behind the Gunpowder plot.

**High Treason:** The crime of betraying one's country, especially by attempting to kill or overthrow the King/Queen or government.

**Houses of Parliament:** This is where politicians meet to decide laws and make decisions for the United Kingdom.

**Plotters:** Someone who secretly makes plans to do something illegal or harmful; a conspirator.



## Useful Websites

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjkj382/articles/zjsqbdm>

<https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Gunpowder-Plot/476268>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zd8fv9q/articles/zdrrcj6>