

## Who are the kings and queens of the past and present?

In this unit of work the children will learn about the past and present monarchs in England. They will also research and compare specific monarchs such as Richard III, Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria and will take part in a medieval banquet to relive how kings and queens would dine/entertain many years ago.

### In this unit children will:

- Develop knowledge of past and present kings and queens - who they were, and when they ruled.
- Order kings and queens on a chronological timeline.
- Understand how the title of king or queen is inherited.
- Experience what kings and queens ate in medieval banquets.
- Learn about the life and death of King Richard III and form opinions based on these facts.
- Identify who the queen of England is and what she does.

### Prior Learning

**EYFS** Knights and castles

### Cross Curricular Links

**Geography** Locating England

**DT** Making crowns

**Art** Monarch portraits

**Literacy** Writing speeches

### Key Vocabulary

**monarch** – a king or queen who rule until their death, or if they decide to abdicate.

**monarchy** – is a form of government in which a single person holds authority in ruling a country.

**rule** – to be in control over an area of people.

**inherit** – receive a title as an heir at the death of the previous holder.

**medieval** – a period of time known as the middle ages.

**coronation** – the ceremony of crowning a monarch.

**Magna Carta** – is a legal document that is signed by the monarch that guarantees certain rights.

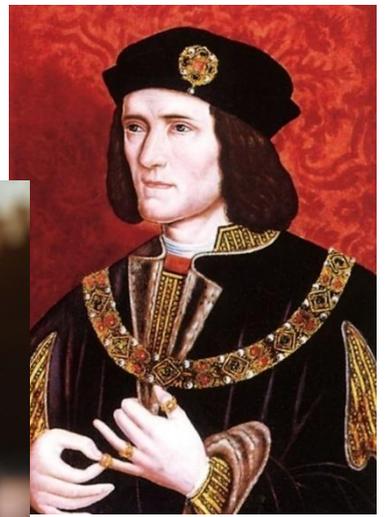
**power** – authority that is given to a person.

**Imperial State Crown** – is one of the crown jewels of the UK.

**Chronological order** – to arrange in order of time.

## Key Knowledge

- A **monarch** is a king or queen, an emperor or a sultan. They are usually part of a royal family and **rule** as monarch until their death, or if they decide to abdicate.
- In the United Kingdom, the tradition is that the **eldest** son of the king and queen becomes the next king (unless there are no sons and then the eldest daughter becomes queen).
- Elizabeth II became Queen of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 1952.
- Nowadays, the British monarch does not have as much **power** as they used to. Mainly the decisions about the country are decided by the people in the **government**, such as the **Prime Minister**.
- King John is the only king ever to be called John. He is famous for being greedy and cruel. He was forced to sign the **Magna Carta** by his advisors. By signing it, this meant that monarchs had to listen to their advisers.
- It is believed by some historians that Richard III killed his nephews, as he may have wanted to stop either of them becoming king instead of him.



- Richard III was the last of the '**medieval**' kings. The medieval period is the time of history between the years 1154 to 1485.
- He was killed in battle by Henry Tudor, who believed he should be king. He then became King Henry VII.

## Key Questions

- What does a monarch do?
- Who was the first monarch?
- Who is the most recent monarch?
- Who becomes king or queen?
- What food and drink do we eat now that they used to eat at medieval banquets?
- What are the differences between Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria?