

Y9 AUT 2 Knowledge Organiser – Topic Two: The Medical Renaissance in England, 1500-1700

Renaissance England

The Renaissance was the period between 1500-1700 in England. Art and Science were growing in importance.

Key events

1543 – Vesalius published *The Fabric of the Human Body*. It showed how the human body worked.

1565 – the first dissection was carried out in Cambridge

1628 Harvey published his book *An Anatomical Account of the Motion of the Heart and Blood* which showed blood moving around the body

1645 – The first meeting of the Royal Society

1665 The Great Plague in London. 75,000 died

Key Concepts

The King – Despite some scientific developments, people still believed that the King could cure diseases such as **scrofula** (a skin disease). Being touched by the King was as close as you could get to being touched by God.

Renaissance – this was a time of change (re-birth) when people became interested in all things Greek and Roman. Printing was developed so that books could be published (e.g. Galen, Vesalius). People realised the Greeks had loved enquiry – asking questions and challenging old ideas. They started to do the same – e.g. challenging Galen's theories

Evidence – rather than believing & accepting old ideas (e.g. The Four Humours) without question, scientists and doctors were more willing to experiment (e.g. dissecting bodies) to make scientific discoveries. People started to look to evidence over tradition.

Tier Three Key Words

Continuity	Things or ideas that stayed the same over time
London Treacle	A medicine that was solve to cure the Plague. It contained herbs, spices, honey and opium
Autopsy	Dissecting a body after someone has died to establish cause of death
Diagnosing	Finding out what disease someone has by e.g. taking their pulse and observing the patient
Royal Society	A group of people interested in science who met weekly. They had a laboratory with microscopes. King Charles II was a patron.
Anatomy	The study of the human body and how it works
Physiology	The workings of the body
Microscope	A new invention that allowed things to be magnified
Thermometer	A new invention that allowed someone's temperature to be taken
Mortality Bill	A document in each parish which recorded who had died and what had killed them.
Pesthouse	A hospital for people suffering from infectious diseases, e.g the Plague.
Printing	The process of creating a book. This was developed during the Renaissance

