**WALT: reflect on the impact of the Great Plague on Colchester**

**Extracts from Reverend Josselin, Earls Colne.**

**13th August 1665**

Arrival of the plague recorded in his diary.

**27th August 1665**

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Those who were able to fled into rural areas, only to spread the disease further. Colchester had a large population for the time – 10,000, mostly within the old Roman wall circuit, plus a further 2,000 prisoners from the war with Holland.

**16th September 1665**

*'Colchester increaseth in illness being spread over the whole town.'*

'Searchers' were appointed to visit houses where people had died, and burials were conducted at night.

People turned to religion, and weekly fasting and prayer was ordered.

**Spring 1666**

*'It's at Dedham and several villages, Lord in mercy remove thy hand.'*

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