

# **History Topic:**

WW1 and WW2

Year Group:

**Spring Term** 

# Key Knowledge: WW1

#### What caused WWI?

- The main cause of the outbreak of WWI was the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand.
- He was killed by the Serbian group 'The Black Hand'.
- After the assassination, Austria-Hungary threatened war
- Germany sided with Austria-Hungary, while Russia sided with Serbia.
- One month after the Archdukes assassination Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia with the backing of
- Germany then declared war on Russia on August 1st and France on August 3rd.
- On August 4th 1914, German troops marched on France, going through Belgium on their way.
- Since Britain had agreed to stay neutral with Belgium, they immediately declared war on Germany.

# **Alliances**

- Many countries made alliances with one another. They agreed to protect each other. If one was attacked, the others would defend them.
- During WWI you have 2 main alliance systems;

#### The Triple Alliance:

Germany

Austria-Hungary





France

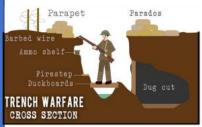
The Triple Entente:

Great Britain



Russia

# **Trench Warfare**



- Many battles were fought using trench warfare. Long ditches were dug in the ground.
- Soldiers lived in the trenches and sometimes climbed out to attack.
- An example of trench war was the Battle of the Somme 1916.

### **End of WWI**

World War Lended at 11am on 11th November 1918. This became known as Armistice Day.



Every year we hold a minute silence on 11th of November at 11am, to remember the soldiers who died during battle.

## **Key Vocabulary:**

Air Raid - An attack by military aircraft in which bombs are dropped.

Blitz – The heavy bombing of British cities by German aircraft in 1940/1941.

**Campaign** – A planned set of activities that people carry out over a period of time.

**Defend -** Take action in order to protect something.

**Economy –** A country's economy is the wealth that it gets from business and industry.

**Evacuate** - To evacuate someone means to send them to a place of safety.

**Invasion –** To take over a place by force.

Luftwaffe - The German Air Force.

Military - Relating to or belonging to the army.

Prime Minister - The leader of the government in some countries.

Nazi - A member of the far-right political party in Germany.

**Rationing** – The system of limiting the amount of food, water, petrol or other substances when there is not enough of them.

**Rural -** Places that are far away from large towns or cities.

**Surrender – Stop fighting or resisting** someone.

### Historical Skills and Enquiry:

Look at different sources and tell us about life during World War I and II.

What was life like for different groups of people in Britain during the war?

What were the causes and consequences of World War I and World War II on Britain?

# **Key Knowledge: WW2**

### What caused WWII?

- After the loss of WWI in 1918, Germany's economy has suffered.
- In 1934, people voted Hitler, the leader of the Nazi Party to lead them.
- Even though he spoke of peace, Hitler and the Nazi Party invaded Austria and Czechoslovakia.
- Two days after the invasion of Poland, Britain declared war on Nazi Germany.

## What was the impact of WWII on Britain?

# **Evacuation**

- Many children living in urban areas were sent from their homes to places considered safer. Usually out in the countryside or rural places.
- **Evacuation** began on Friday 1st September 1939. It was called 'Operation Pied Piper'
- The evacuees were not brought home until after the war was over.

### Rationing

- During the War, Germany tried to cut off food and other goods coming into Britain.
- This meant that there was less food for the people
- Food was rationed, so the supply did not run out.
- People used their Ration Books during this time.

### Jobs

- Many men fought in the war and so women were asked to undertake most of the jobs left.
- During the war, women did jobs such as mechanics, ambulance drivers and **air raid** wardens.

#### The Blitz

- The Blitz was a military campaign in which the Royal Air Force (RAF) defended the UK against the Germans.
- Hitler sent his Luftwaffe bombers to attack British ports and RAF airfields.
- During The Blitz, the city of London was heavily bombed.
- Hitler began a series of nightly bomb raids on London and other important cities.
- People kept safe by using air sirens, shelters and





## **Significant People:**

### **World War I**

# Franz Ferdinand (1863-1914)



- Franz Ferdinand was born on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1863. He died on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1914.
- He was married to Sophie,
  Duchess of Hohenburg.
- Archduke Franz Ferdinand was the heir to the Austria-Hungary throne.
- The Archduke was assassinated by a Serbian group named 'The Black Hand'
- •His assassination was one of the main reasons for the starts of World War I.

#### **World War II**

## Adolf Hitler (1889-1945)



- Adolf was born on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1889. He died on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1945.
- Adolf Hitler was a German politician and leader of the Nazi Party.
- Hitler started WW2 by invading Poland.
- He is known for wanting to kill Jewish people during the Holocaust.

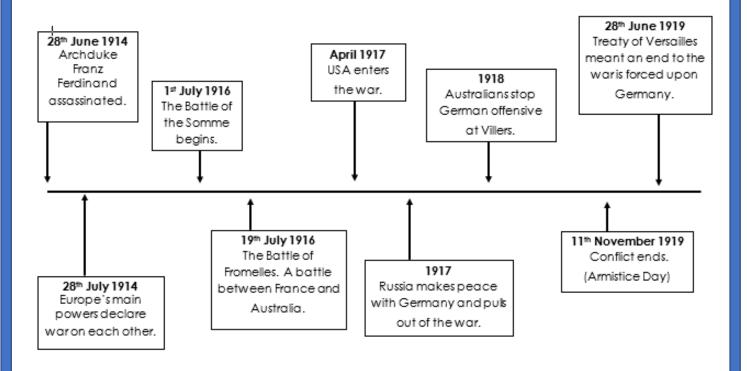
## Winston Churchill (1874 – 1965)



- Winston Churchill was born on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1874. He died on 24<sup>th</sup> January 1965.
- He was married to Clementine Churchill.
- Winston Churchill was
  Prime Minister of the UK
  from 1940 1945 and 1951
   1955.
- •Winston Churchill led Britain to victory during the Second World War.
- He made a famous speech during WW2.
- "We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender."

### **Timeline of Events:**

#### **World War I Timeline**



## **World War II Timeline**

