

Year 6

"Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few." Winston Churchill (1940)

**Year 6 Knowledge Organiser
Spring Term World War 2**

Prior learning: Struggles between different groups: Anglo Saxon and Vikings.

Important people

Winston Churchill

British Prime Minister from 1940 to 1945. Best remembered for successfully leading Great Britain through World War Two. Famous for his inspiring speeches and for not giving in, even when things were going badly.

Adolf Hitler

German dictator from 1933 to 1945. He initiated World War II in Europe by invading Poland on 1 September 1939.

Joseph Stalin

General Secretary of the Communist Party & Leader of the Soviet Union, 1929-1953

Franklin D. Roosevelt

32nd President of the United States (1933-1945)

Benito Mussolini

Prime Minister (dictator) of Italy, 1922-1953

Key Vocabulary

Armistice – An agreement made by opposing sides to stop fighting for a short time

Blitz - Series of aerial bombing raids on the UK, mainly cities including London, Bristol and Nottingham

Coalition – A temporary alliance for combined action

Concentration camp - Prisons where Jewish people and other prisoners were held by the Nazis

Dictator – A ruler with total power over a country, typically one who has obtained control by force

Evacuee - Someone who was evacuated, moved from a danger area to a safer place (normally from the cities to rural areas)

Fascism - Right wing political view associated with not allowing opposition and total control by a dictator

Holocaust - Mass murder of Jews & other groups of people by the Nazis

Nazi - Member of the fascist German political party which came to power in 1933

Occupation – Land taken over by enemy forces

Propaganda – Information designed to persuade people of something, often biased or untrue

Rationing – Limiting the amount of food / goods people receive

Reparations – Money to be paid by the losers after a war

Treaty – A formal written agreement between countries/states

Date	Key Event
28th June 1919	Germany lose World War I and sign Treaty of Versailles, accepting responsibility for the war and promising to pay billions of pounds in reparations
1st September 1939	Adolf Hitler's Germany invade Poland
Sept 3rd 1939	Following a speech from Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, Britain and France declare war on Germany, signifying the beginning of World War II.
January 1940	Rationing introduced in the UK.
13th May 1940	Chamberlain resigns and Winston Churchill becomes Prime Minister of a wartime coalition government.
May 26th 1940	British and French forces in France forced to retreat to Britain from Dunkirk. 338,000 men are rescued.
22nd June 1940	France signs armistice with Germany, meaning France is now under German occupation.
July-October 1940	Germany launches air attacks on Great Britain (The Battle of Britain and the Blitz begins). Germany, Italy and Japan create the Axis Alliance.
7th December 1941	The Japanese attack the US Navy in Pearl Harbour. The next day, the USA enters the war.
6th June 1944	D-Day. Allied forces launch huge attack on Germany in Normandy and take back France.
7th May 1945	Germany surrender to the Allied forces after Hitler's suicide. Victory in Europe is declared the next day (VE day)

Did you know:

- The Blitz destroyed two million houses including 60% of those in London.
- Rationing continued after the end of World War Two and only ended in 1954.

