Highters Heath Community School | Excelsior Multi Academy Trust

The Main Wartime Leaders

Winston Churchill
The Prime Minister of Great Britain during most of WW2. He was the Prime Minister twice from 1940-1945 and again from 1951-1955.

Joseph Stalin
He ruled the Soviet Union form the mid-1920s until his death in 1953.

Franklin D.Roosevelt
The President of the U.S.A. during most of WW2. He unfortunately died before the end of WW2.
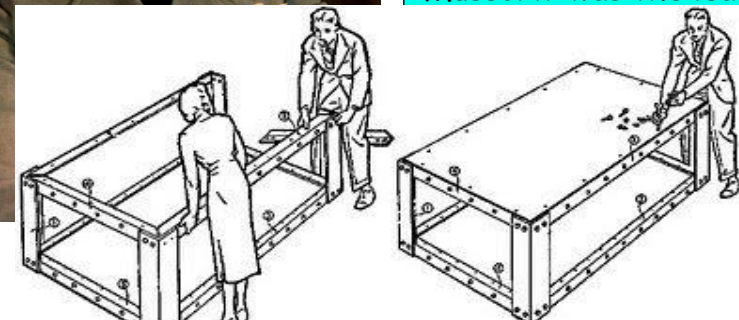
Adolf Hitler
Adolf Hitler became the leader of Germany in 1934. Hitler and his new wife (Eva Braun) killed themselves just before the end of the war when he released that Germany was going to lose in 1945.

When did World War 2 (WW2) happen?
September 1st 1939 – September 2nd 1945

Dear Parents,

Our next topic is World War 2 (WW2). Please help your children to prepare for this topic by helping them to learn the key words (in purple) and the facts on this sheet.

There are some homework activities on the back of this sheet. Your child can complete these at any time. Your child's teacher would love to see what they have created.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards – Mrs Leighton

Why did World War 2 start?
When World War 1 finished, Germany lost some of its lands, was forced to pay money to allies and to made to make its army, navy and air force smaller. Germany became poor. The German people began to lose their jobs and food became too expensive to buy. Hitler and his party promised to change things and he eventually became the leader of Germany.

He made the army, navy and air force larger, stopped paying money to the allies and began to take back the land that was taken from them. He bullied the countries around Germany. Eventually, he threatened to invade Poland. If he did this Great Britain and France told him there would be war. Hitler decided to invade Poland and the war began.

Adolf Hitler in WW1
Hitler was a messenger in the army in WW1. He showed considerable bravery and won 2 medals. On October 15th 1918 he was injured in a mustard gas attack. Many people believe this is the reason why Germany did not use poisonous gas during WW2 to attack the Allies.

Benito Mussolini
Mussolini was the leader of Italy in WW2. Near the end

International Morse Code
1. The length of a dot is one unit.
2. A dash is three units.
3. The space between parts of the same letter is one unit.
4. The space between letters is three units.
5. The space between words is seven units.

A •—
B —•••
C —•—•
U ••—
V •••—
W •——

The Battle of Britain
Britain's cities were bombed during WW2. Germany wanted to force Britain to surrender. Houses all over the country build bomb shelters. The two main ones were the
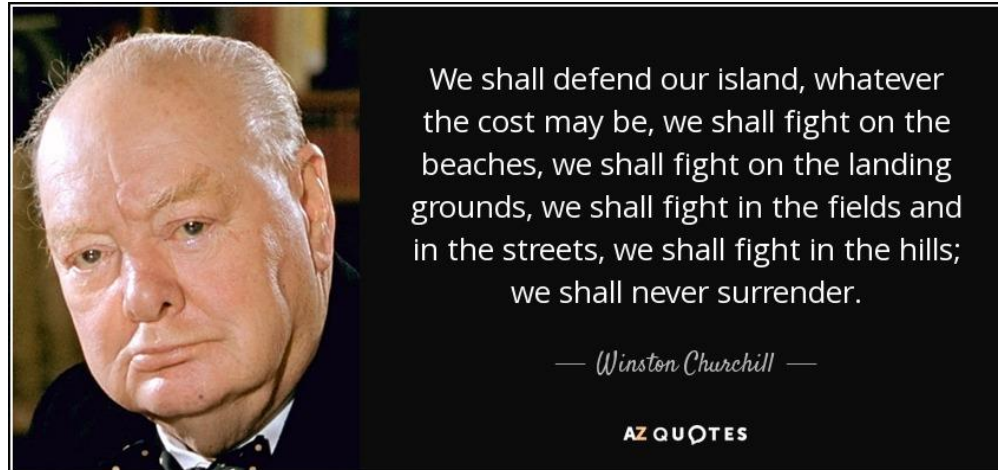
Vocabulary for World War 2 (WW2)

air raid – An attack by planes dropping bombs.

Allies – One side in WW2. The main countries included Great Britain, America, Australia, France, India, New Zealand, Canada, The Soviet Union (Russia) and China.

allotment – Small plot of land for growing vegetables.

Axis – One side in WW2. The main countries were Germany, Japan and Italy.

Battle of Britain – Air battles between the RAF and the Luftwaffe.

blackout – Wartime ban on lights at night.

blitz – The name given to the bombing of London during WW2.

blitzkrieg – A tactic used by the Germans at the start of the war. It means 'lightning war'.

British Empire – Countries ruler by Britain.

civilians – People not in the armed forces.

concentration camps – Camps that the Nazis sent people to who disagreed with them or who were Jewish to work and die.

D-Day – June 6th 1944 – The date Allied forces landed in Normandy, France.

evacuee – Someone who was moved from a dangerous area (like a city) to a safer place (like the countryside).

Home Guard – A group of volunteers (usually people too old or young to join the army) whose job it was to help defend Great Britain from invasion.

Holocaust – The murder of millions of Jews and other people by the Nazis.

Kriegsmarine – The name for the German navy.

Luftwaffe – The name for the German air force.

navy – A group of ships belonging to a country.

Nazi Party – A political party in Germany that Adolf Hitler was the leader of.

propaganda – Controlling the news to show your side in the best way and to make people think in certain ways.

R.A.F. – The Royal Air Force (Great Britain).

rationing – Limiting the amount of food and other things due to shortages.

refugee – A person forced to leave their home, often by war.

resistance – Fighting back in an occupied country, for

The Spitfire

The Spitfire was one of the best and most famous planes of the war. Thanks to these planes and their brave pilots, Great Britain won the Battle of Britain.

If go to Star City, you will see the Jaguar Car factory. In WW2, this factory was very important as it built Spitfires.

Anderson Shelter

Morrison Shelter

Morse Code

Morse code was used by spies and the armed forces to send messages in WW2. Morse code is made up of dots (short sounds) and dashes (long sounds). It was created in the 1830s and 1840s by Samuel Morse.

An extract from Churchill's speech at the start of the war

We shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be, 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.

— *Winston Churchill*

AZ QUOTES

DIG ON FOR VICTORY

During WW2, food was rationed. People were therefore encouraged to grow their own food in their gardens.

The V2

This was the first human object ever to go into space. It was built by Germany and was used to attack cities in England, such as London.
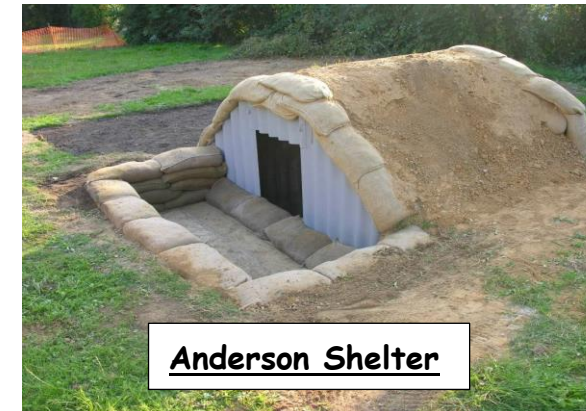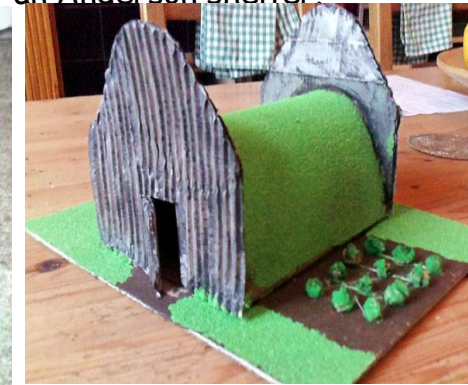
Homework Ideas

(1) Research an aircraft, ship or tank that took part in WW2. Make a model, drawing or collage and don't forget to include a description.

(2) Look at the leaders in WW2. Create a PowerPoint or a piece of research about one of them.

(3) Make a model of a gas mask.

(4) Make a model of an Anderson shelter.

(5) Create a fact-file about the life of a child during World War 2. This should contain facts about everyday life including evacuation, rationing, the Blitz.

(6) Make a word search of places, names and words connected with WWII.

(7) Make some flags from fabric for countries involved in WWII.

(8) Draw a picture of a WW2 leader.

(9) Make a newspaper report about your street being bombed in WW2.

(10) Write your name or a message in Morse code.