

## Key Vocabulary

- Allied Forces
- Axis Powers
- Appeasement
- Remembrance
- Blitzkrieg – ‘Lightning War’
- Evacuation
- Rationing
- Trenches
- The Holocaust
- Enigma
- Fascism
- Trenches
- Conscription
- Refugee



# We'll Meet Again

Year 5 & 6 Autumn term

History – World War II 1939-1945



## Key Knowledge

- WWII was a battle between two groups of countries - The Allied Powers and the Axis Powers. The major allied powers were Britain, France, Russia, China and the USA. The major Axis powers were Germany, Italy and Japan.
- Together with the Nazi party, Hitler wanted Germany to rule Europe. To gain more land and power, on the 1st Sep 1939 German troops invaded Poland. After Hitler refused to stop the invasion, Britain and France declare war on Germany-WWII had begun.
- Many children living in big cities and towns were moved temporarily from their homes to places considered safer, usually in the countryside. The first official evacuations began on September 1 1939, two days before the declaration of war.
- The bombing of London, known as the Blitz (Blitzkrieg) lasted for 57 consecutive nights. Hitler wanted to quash the British spirits so they would surrender.
- All sorts of essential and non-essential foods were rationed, as well as clothing, furniture and petrol. To make the British weak, the Germans tried to cut off supplies of food and other goods.
- The Battle of Britain was the first military campaign fought solely in the air.
- Both Allies and the Axis powers used propaganda posters to boost the moral at people at home and those fighting. It was also used to decrease the morale of the enemy.
- The USA didn't join the war until 1941 when Japan attacked the US- at the naval base at Pearl Harbour in Hawaii.
- The atomic bomb dropped by the US on Hiroshima was known as 'Little Boy' and is the only nuclear weapon used in battle. It ended the war.



## Key Figures



- Winston Churchill – born 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 1874 and died 1965
- British Prime Minister 1940-1945
- Churchill led Britain to victory in the Second World War
- Allied Powers – Britain, Russia, USA
- Adolf Hitler was a German politician – leader of the Nazi Party.
- Initiated WWII by invading Poland 1<sup>st</sup> September 1939
- Axis Powers – Germany, Italy, Japan.

## Key Dates

- **1st Sep 1939** Germany invades Poland.
- **3rd Sep 1939** Great Britain, France and their Allies declare war on Germany.
- **April 1940 – June 1940** Germany invades European countries.
- **10th May 1940** Winston Churchill elected Prime Minister of GB.
- **10th July – 1st Oct 1940** The Battle of Britain is fought in the air about the south coast of England and the English Channel. The London Blitz begins
- **7th – 11th Dec 1940** Japan bombs Pearl Harbour, Hawaii. USA declare war on Japan, Germany and Italy.
- **6th June 1944** D-Day. British, Canadian and US Troops land in Normandy France.
- **8th May 1945** Britain celebrates the victory in Europe (VE day)
- **6th Aug 1945** First atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan by USA
- **1st Sep 1945** Japan surrenders. WWII officially ends

