

Britain At War

Year 6 Oxford and Cambridge

PROJECT LAUNCH DAY



THE 40s EXPERIENCE - JANUARY 16TH 2024

The teacher was very strict. I was surprised they were allowed to use a cane! It made me very grateful to be at Manorcroft in 2024.

Masie



In the 1940s, schools were terrifying. Everything would have to be perfect or you would get the cane. The saying was, 'Children should be seen and not heard.'

Elliot



The air raid shelter was really dark and people had to go to the toilet in a bucket – gross!
Lulu

Trying to work out how to diffuse the bomb was so fun! When we 'cut' the wire and the bomb 'exploded', it really made me jump. It made me realise how hard that job must have been for the soldiers.
Ava





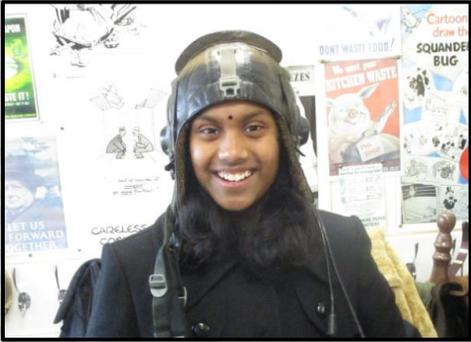
My favourite part was holding a Thompson gun and pulling the trigger.
Tommy



It was very exciting to be able to hold a real gun! We learnt all about the weapons that were used in the war.
Noah S.



It was lighter than I thought it would be. I liked holding it and pulling the trigger.
Sam



I liked looking at the
morse code machines
and hearing the sounds
they used to send
messages.
Albie



WW1

Gaby

Monday 9th January 2024
Causes of the First World War (1)

Alliances

Actions

In 1839, Britain signed a treaty with Belgium. Then Germany, Austria-Hungary & Italy formed an alliance in 1882. Soon after in 1907, France, Great Britain and Russia also formed an alliance.

How did this lead to war?

When Germany declared to have war with Russia, we had to help as well as France as we also signed a treaty for alliances.

Actions

Germany wanted a larger empire so they went to war with France.

How did this lead to war?

In 1871, after the Franco-German War, Germany took over a territory that belonged to France. Germany's takeover of land belonging to France created a long term desire for revenge by the French people.

Militarism

Actions

So, Germany, France, Russia and Britain believed that having

a large, effective military showed their strength. They developed new weaponry as well.

How did this lead to war?

The technology caused European countries to become competitive.

M Nationalism

Actions

Britain, France, Germany and Austria-Hungary each believed their country or empire to be superior to the others.

How it led to war?

M Nationalism made Austria-Hungary assertive & aggressive. They declared war on Serbia in 1914.

Assassination

Actions

On 28th June 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, and his wife, were assassinated by a Serbian nationalist called Gavrilo Princip.

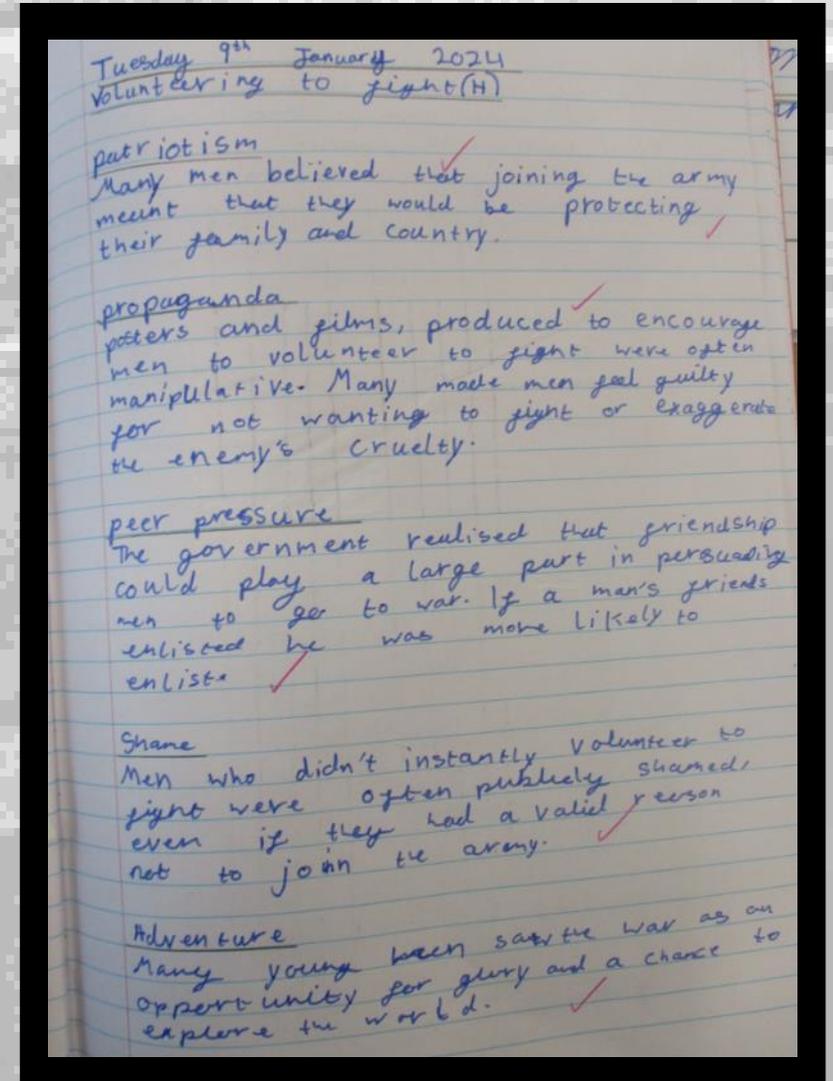
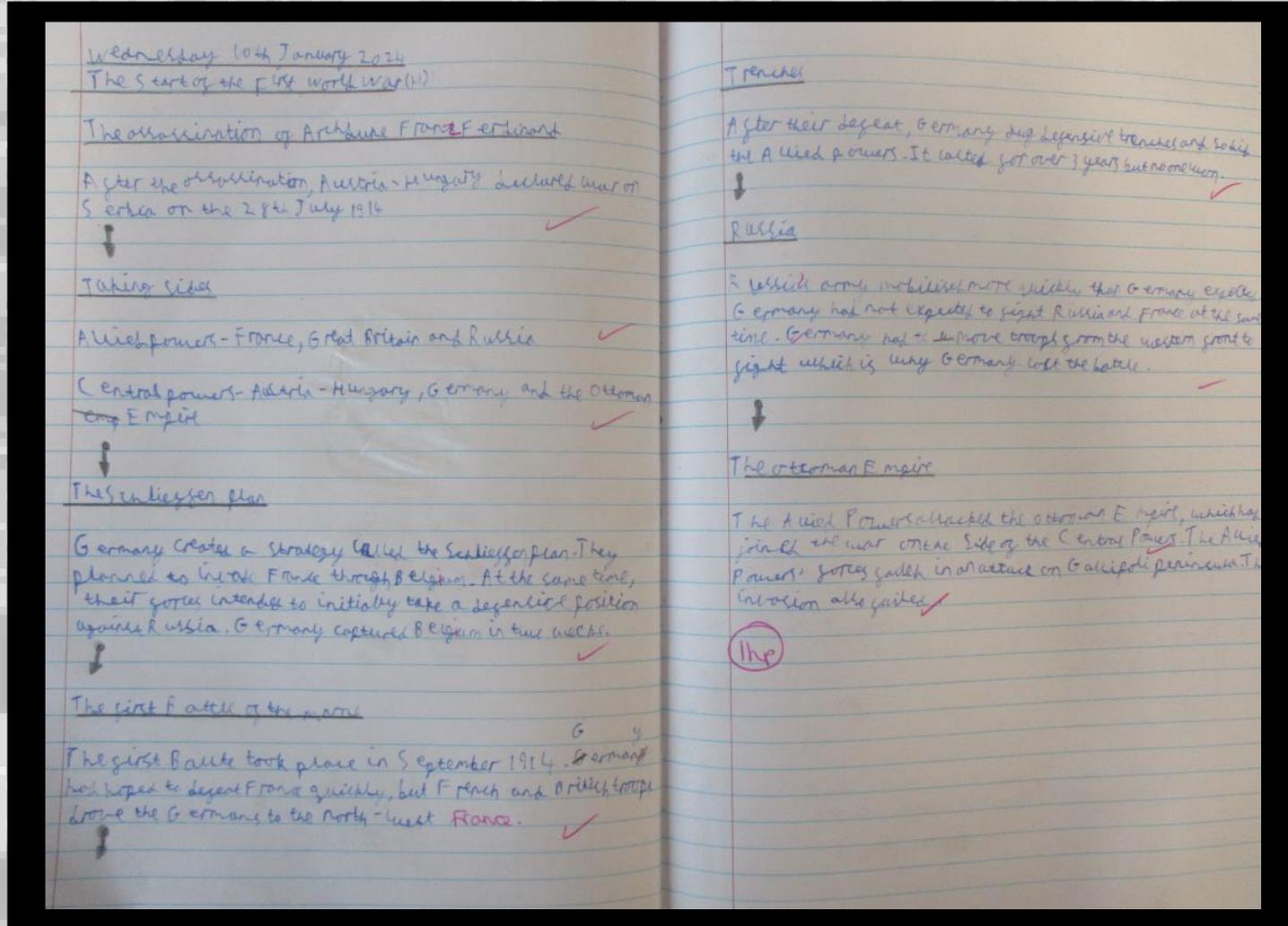
Abi

Thursday, 4th November 2023
TERMS relating to warfare (11)

1. Allies - A person or organisation that cooperates with, or helps, another.
2. Battle - A sustained fight between large, organised armed forces.
3. Civilian - A person not in the armed service or the police force.
4. Combat - Fighting between armed forces.
5. Conflict - A prolonged armed struggle.
6. Defence - The action of defending or resisting attack.
7. Genocide - The deliberate killing of large numbers of people from a particular nation or ethnic group, with the aim of destroying that nation or group.
8. Invasion - An instance of invading a country or region with an armed force.
9. Liberate - Set someone free from imprisonment, slavery or oppression.
10. Persecution - Hostility and ill treatment, especially because of person's race or political or religious beliefs.

WW1

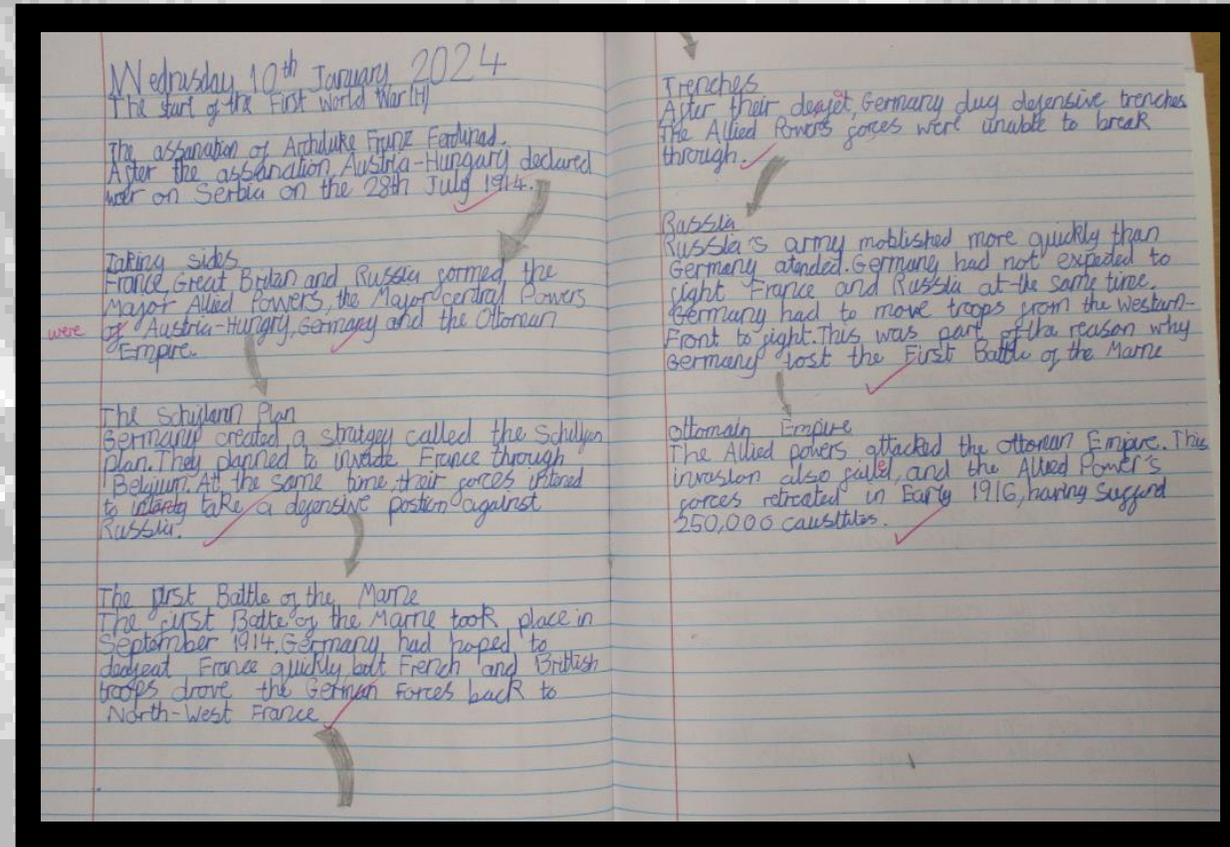
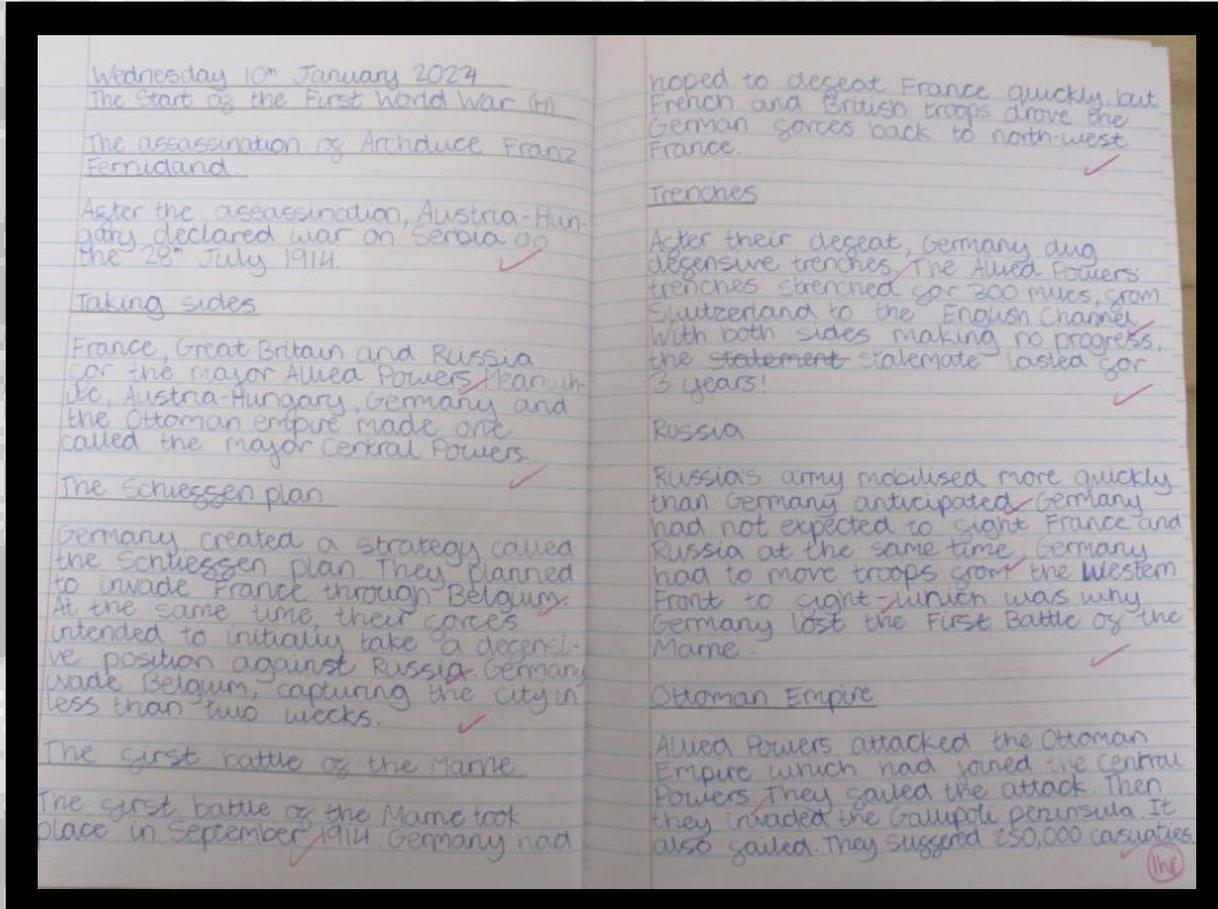
Alvaro



Nevaeh

WW1

Max



Noah L

Thursday 11th January 2024
Life in the Trenches (H) (RW)

Location

The trenches were located on the Western Front. This was in the Middle East, Europe and Africa.

Reasons

Trenches were a place for shelter. They were also for shelter and protection.

Trench Systems

There were 3 different trenches: the Fire trench, the Support trench and the Reserve trench. These were connected by the Communication trench.

Life in the Trenches

The soldiers would sleep in the daytime (because activity would take place at night) in dugouts. Rats and flies would also cause disease.

Food

You couldn't brew tea and the water tasted of petrol, this was because they came in petrol cans. The bacon was cold and wasn't cooked properly.

Danger - There were artillery shells and sniper bullets

Behind the line

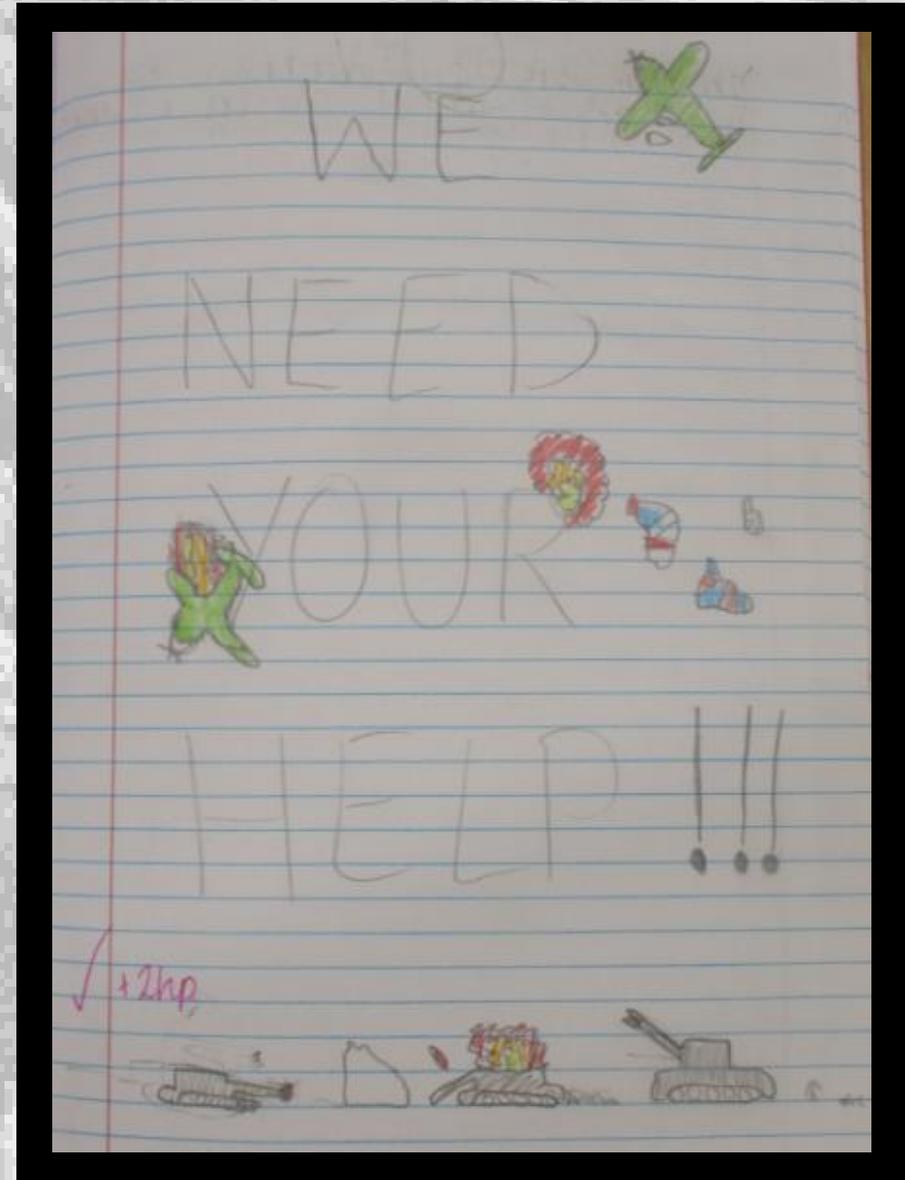
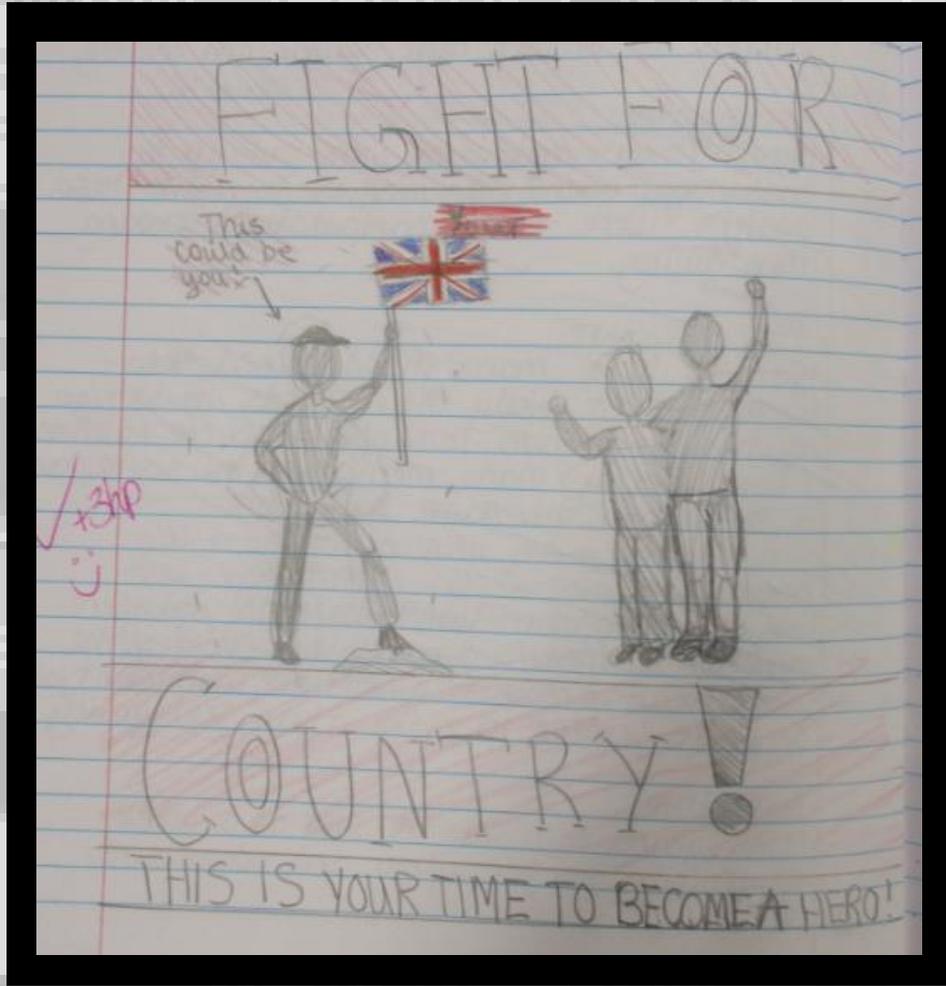
Soldiers could take a break with: A good sleep, a hot bath or even go home to England.

It was very interesting to learn about the conditions that the soldiers had to live in. They had to sleep next to rats and flies!
Andy

Life in the trenches was horrible. The tea tasted like petrol and the bacon was cold. Behind the line was the favourite place because you could have a hot bath and clean clothes.
Penny

WW1

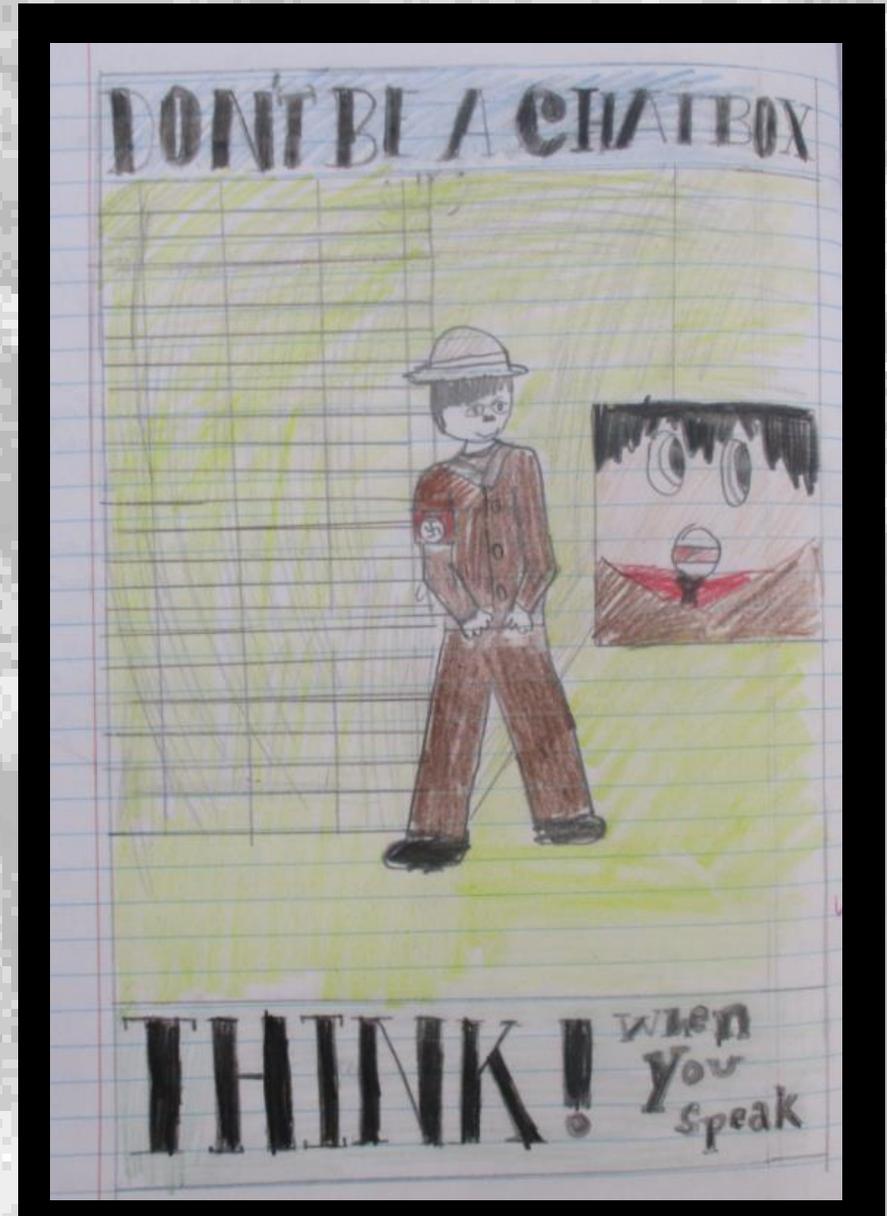
Rosie



Lyon

WW1

Jahnvi



Arjun

WW1

Wednesday 17th January 2024
WW1 Weaponry (H)

Name and description
Artillery were huge heavy guns. They could fire metal cases or shells which contained pieces of metal called shrapnel, explosives or poisonous gas.

Consequences
The constant sound of explosions and fear of shell fire caused some soldiers to suffer post-traumatic stress disorders, known as shell shock. More soldiers were killed by artillery than any other weapon.

Aircraft
These were first used to spot on enemy targets. Machine guns on planes were also used to fire on enemy trenches.

Aircraft
As British aircraft became faster and more efficient, they were used to bomb German airfields, transport networks and factories.

Tanks
A tank is an armoured fighting vehicle. Tanks were commonly heavy vehicles with caterpillar tracks that could travel across muddy battlefields. They had thick armour.

The German army used aircraft and Zeppelins to bomb British cities.
Tanks
Tanks could only reach speeds of four miles per hour. Early tanks often broke down when out of fuel or got stuck in the mud.

Josh

Wednesday 17th January 2024
WW1 Weaponry (H)

Name and description
Artillery

Consequences
Artillery

Artillery were huge, heavy guns. They could fire metal cases or shells which contained pieces of metal called shrapnel, explosives or poisonous gas.

The constant sounds of explosions and fear of shell fire caused some soldiers to suffer post-traumatic stress disorder, known as shell shock. More soldiers were killed by artillery than any other weapon.

Guns

Guns

Most soldiers had a rifle. A blade, called a bayonet, was sometimes attached to rifles for close up fighting. Pistols were also used. Field guns fired shells that exploded on impact. Machine guns could fire up to 600 bullets per minute.

They were large, difficult weapons to use. They could fire shells over seven kilometres, but had to be placed on a flat surface. Machine guns were among the deadliest weapons used during the war and caused thousands of casualties.

Tanks

Tanks

A tank is an armoured fighting vehicle.

Could only reach speeds of four miles per hour. Early tanks often

Tanks were enormous, heavy vehicles with caterpillar tracks that could travel across muddy battlefields. They had thick armour that shielded the soldiers inside from bullets.

broke down, ran out of fuel or got stuck in mud.

Harry

WW1

Monday 22nd January 2024
End of the First World War (H) (HW)

1 In 1918, Germany was in a strong position; Russia had just left the war. However, when Russia left, Germany tried to push through the Allied lines, the British and French army fought back.

2 The British and French armies pushed Germany into Central Europe. Germany was losing.

3 When Germany ordered their Navy back to sea they said no and went on strike. This meant that Germany had no boats to overlook what boats were going where.

4 In 1917, the USA joined the Allied Powers because they were angry at Germany for constantly sinking their boats.

5 It was at this point that the German leaders realised they had lost the war. The leader at the time, Kaiser Wilhelm, stepped down.

6 The armistice (peace treaty) was signed two days later (9th November 1918).

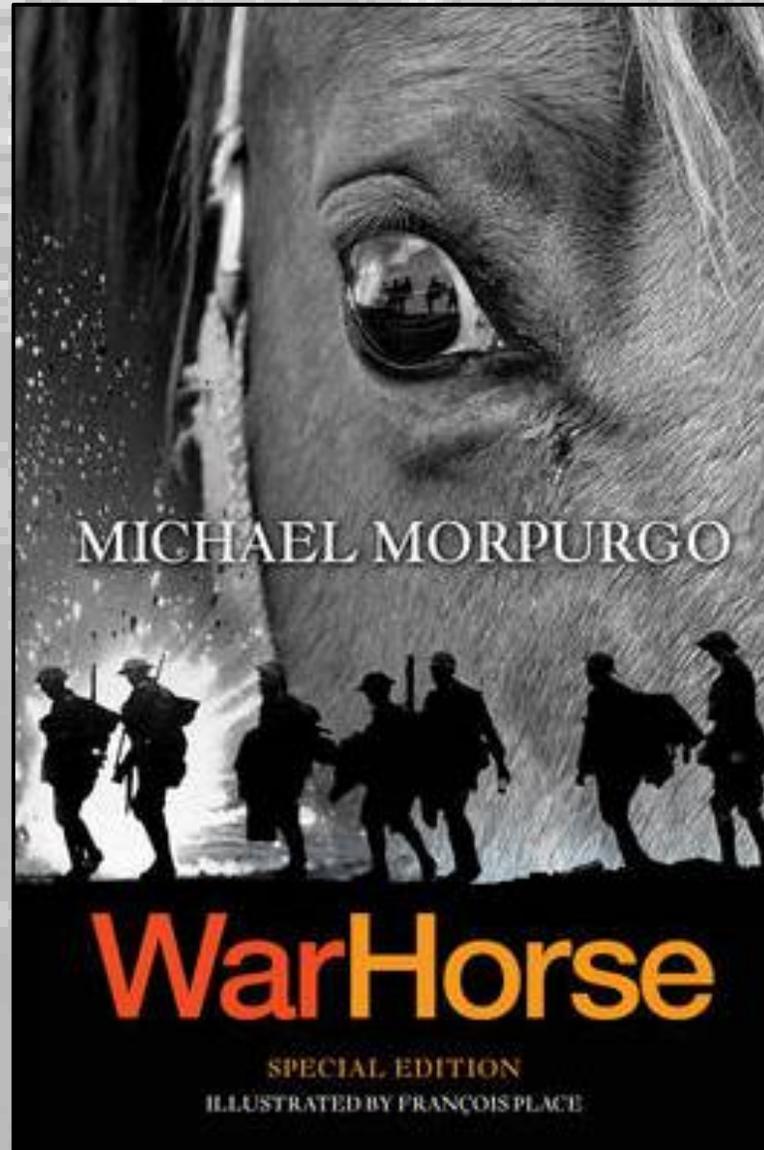
7 In 1919, British, French and US leaders met in Versailles to decide what would happen to Germany. Germany was not invited to this meeting.

8 Germany had to pay 132 billion gold marks to repair the damage from the war. They were also only allowed an army of 100,000 men, no Air Force, and no submarines in their Navy.

At the end of WW1, Germany signed a peace treaty causing them many consequences. Some of these were not being allowed to have over 100,000 men in the army, to have all the blame of the war and to have no submarines.

Kiyana

I am enjoying the book because it is very tense. I hope Albert will be reunited with Joey once more at the end.
Jenson



I liked reading War Horse because I find it interesting to learn about the war.
Jessica

It is a really good book. I feel sorry for the horses and how badly they were treated during the war.
Lucian

**Whole Class Reading -
War Horse**

WW2

Teo

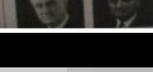
Warring Nations of the Second World War



The two opposing sides in the Second World War were the Allied Powers, made up of Great Britain, United States and Soviet Union and the Axis Powers, made up of Italy, Japan and Germany.

Germany made alliance with countries with the same goals of expanding their territory and combatting the ideas of communism, which were spreading in the Soviet Union. Italy had signed the Pact of Steel with Germany in 1939, agreeing military help, but did not enter the war until 1940. Japan was a long way from Europe, but shared the same aims as Italy and Germany.

Great Britain had a close relationship with the United States, even though they were separated by the Atlantic Ocean. Although the United States tried to remain neutral in the war, they eventually joined the Allied Powers in 1941, after Japanese aircraft bombed their naval base at Pearl Harbor. The Soviet Union began the war as an ally of Germany, after they signed a Non-Aggression Pact in 1939. However, when Adolf Hitler ordered a surprise attack on the Soviet Union, it switched sides and became one of the Allied Powers.

	Italy
	Great Britain
	United States
	Japan
	Soviet Union
	Germany

Wednesday 24th January 2024
Beginning of the Second World War

Adolf Hitler invades Poland - 1st September 1939
Germany invaded Poland to regain territory after WW1 (through the Blitz)

Poland Surrenders - 27th September 1939
The Polish army were unprepared. On 17th 3rd September 1939, the Soviet Union joined forces with Germany and encircled Poland. They divided Poland between them.

Occupation of Poland - 5 September 1939 - May 1945
Millions of Polish were murdered, put to work as slaves or forced to move. This was all part of Adolf Hitler's plan to make a race of purely German people.

Phoney War - October 1939 - March 1940
All silent quiet. Britain had prepared for an imminent attack living under strict restrictions, including rations, evacuation and air raid precautions. This period of inaction became known as the 'Phoney War' because the war didn't happen.

Germany takes control of Luxembourg and the Netherlands - 10th - 28th May 1940
German troops marched into Belgium and

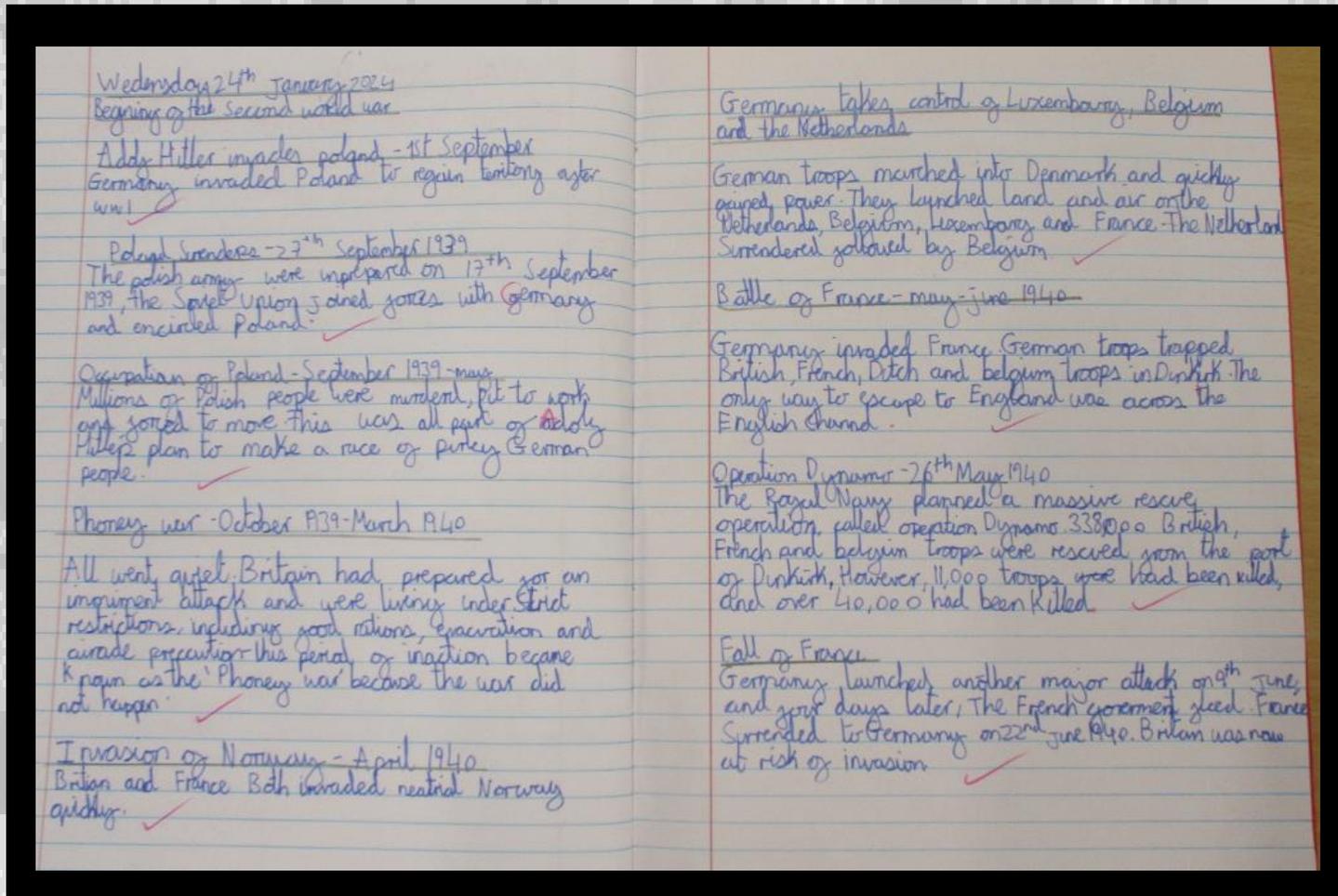
Allyed joined power. They launched land and air attacks on Luxembourg, Belgium and the Netherlands and France. The Netherlands surrendered followed by Belgium.

Battle of France - May - June 1940
Germany invaded France. German troops trapped British, French, Dutch and Belgian troops in Dunkirk. The only way to escape to England was across the English Channel.

Operation Dynamo - 26th May - 4th June 1940
The Royal Navy planned a massive rescue operation Dynamo. 338,000 British, French and Belgian troops were rescued from the port of Dunkirk. However, 11,000 troops had been killed and over 40,000 had been taken as prisoners.

Fall of France - 22nd June 1940
Germany launched another major attack on 9th June, and four days later, the French government fled. France surrendered to Germany on 22nd June 1940. Britain was now at great risk of invasion.

Maj



It has been interesting to learn about how Hitler controlled Germany. I was very sad to learn what happened in the concentration camps.
Eddie W.

Raymond

Olek

Monday 29th January 2024
The Battle of Britain (H)

What was the Battle of Britain?

The Battle of Britain was when Britain fought back against Germany when they tried to destroy our Royal Air Force so they could invade us by sea. This battle was important because we were one of the last countries left to fight Germany.

When did it start?

The Battle of Britain started on 10th July 1940, when British ships in the English Channel were bombed by the German Luftwaffe. It lasted many months as the Germans continued to bomb Britain.

Why is it called the Battle of Britain?

The name comes from a speech that the Prime Minister of Great Britain, Winston Churchill. After Germany invaded France, Winston Churchill said, 'The Battle of France is over. The Battle of Britain is about to begin.'

How did the Battle commence?

The Germans began by bombing towns and army depots on the southern coast. However, Britain's air force was a formidable opponent so the Germans changed tactics and began to target runways and radars to try and hinder the RAF.

How did the British RAF defend Britain against so many German planes?

The RAF were very organised and efficient. Britain was split into groups and sectors with a main fighter aircraft in each one. They gained intelligence from radar operatives and used it to help in many ways.

What was the secret code?

Hitler had a secret code name for his invasion plan; it was called 'Operation Sea Lion'.

Although German planes continued to bomb after-wards (called the Blitz), the 15th September 1940 is officially when the war ended.

How many planes were destroyed?

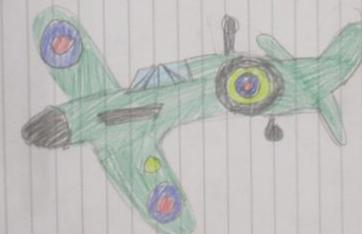
It is estimated that 1000 British planes were shot down during the Battle of Britain whereas 1500 German planes were destroyed.

When did the Battle of Britain end?

On the 15th September 1940, the Germans launched one of their biggest attacks but the British fighters hit back and regained the advantage. Hitler became angry and realised that he could not defeat the RAF.

Why was the Battle of Britain a turning point in the second World War?

In World War 2, the Battle of Britain was a turning point because Germany lost more people than Britain and Britain had a better team even though we had a smaller team.



This is a picture of a Britain Spitfire. They are one of the best air crafts and they helped us in the war. (20/15)

Ellie

Monday 29th January 2024
The battle of Britain (H)

What was it?

The battle of Britain was an attempt by the Germans to destroy Great Britain's RAF so that they could invade by sea. After Hitler and the German army had invaded most of Europe.

When did the battle happen and why?

The battle of Britain started on 10th July 1940, British ships in the English Channel were bombed by the German Luftwaffe. It lasted many months as the Germans continued to bomb Britain.

What was the Luftwaffe?

The Luftwaffe was the name of the German air force. When the battle of Britain began, the Luftwaffe was at a distinct advantage over the RAF. They had 2000 aircraft against Britain's 600.

How did the battle begin and what happened?

The Germans began by bombing towns and army depots on the southern coast. So the Germans changed tactics and began to target runways and radars to try and hinder the RAF.

Who won?

On September 15th 1940 the Germans launched one of the biggest attacks but the British fighters hit back hard. 15th September 1940 is officially regarded as the end of the battle of Britain and this day is commemorated each year.

Why was it a turning point in WW2?

The Battle of Britain was a big turning point because at the end 1023 RAF aircrafts got destroyed and 554 crew were killed but

For the Luftwaffe 1897 aircrafts got destroyed and 2600 crewmen died. Because of this it was a turning point for Britain and resulted in them winning.

WW2

WW2

The Battle of Britain

In the boxes below, write down everything you have found out about the Battle of Britain. When did the Battle of Britain start? What started the Battle of Britain? Why is it called the Battle of Britain?

What was the Battle of Britain?
The Battle of Britain was the attempt by the Germans to destroy GB RAF so that they could then invade by sea.

What is it called the Battle of Britain?
The name comes from a speech given by the Prime Minister of GB Winston Churchill. The Battle of France is over. The Battle of Britain is about to begin.

When did the battle happen?
The Battle of Britain started on 10th July 1940. When British ships in the English Channel were bombed by the German Luftwaffe.

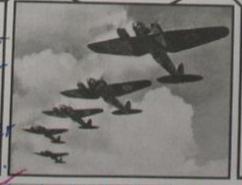
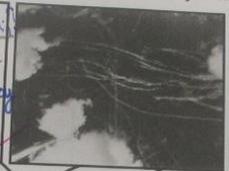
When did the Battle of Britain start?
On 15th September 1940, the Germans launched one of their biggest attacks but the British fighters hit back with out-gained.

How did the battle commence?
The Germans began by bombing towns and army bases on the Southern coast. However, Britain's air force was strong.

Why was it a turning point?
It was the first time the Germans didn't succeed.

Monday 24th January 2024
The Battle of Britain

The Battle of Britain



Sachin

Alessio

Monday 29th January 2024
The Battle of Britain (HD)

What was the Battle of Britain?

Which was the most famous plane?

The Battle of Britain was the attempt by the Germans to destroy Great Britain's Royal Air Force so they could invade by sea.

The British Spitfire plane was the most famous plane along with the Hawker Hurricane. The British Spitfire became a popular symbol for the Battle of Britain.

This was an important battle in the WW2 because after Germany invaded France they thought we would surrender but we didn't.

How did the battle start?
The Germans began bombing towns and army depots on the Southern coast.

When did it start?
It began on the 10th of July 1940.

Why is it called the Battle of Britain?
The name comes from a speech by Winston Churchill. The Battle of France is over. It is now time for the Battle of Britain.

When did it end?
It ended on 15th September 1940 even though WW2 ended in 1945.

How did the RAF defend Britain?
The RAF defences were so well organized and efficient.

Why was the Battle of Britain a turning point?
Germany had failed their plan and if they hadn't failed they would have won the war.



IMP

Sachin

Alessio

Tuesday 30th January 2024

Anne Frank (ii)

Why did the Frank family go into hiding?

On the 6th July 1942, Anne Frank's family had to go into hiding because they were Jewish. Anne's sister Margot had received an order to report back to Germany to work. Anne's family were scared because they knew how badly the Jewish were being treated, so they didn't let Margot go back to Germany.

How did life change when they lived in the annex?

The annex was a damp, lopsided place. They would constantly fear that they would be discovered and this caused them to stress and get into arguments.

Why did other people live in the annex with other the Franks?

Soon not only the Franks were living in the annex. Herrman van Pels soon arrived with his wife Auguste their son Peter and their cat. Anne's dad and Herrman had worked together and were good friends. They had decided to prepare the annex in case something like this happened.

What were the challenges of living in the annex?

When Franks dad's business was open they had to be very quiet so the workers below would not hear them. They could not move around, talk or even flush the toilet also every evening they had to black out their window and not let one bit of light peak out.

What were Anne Frank's hopes and dreams for the future?

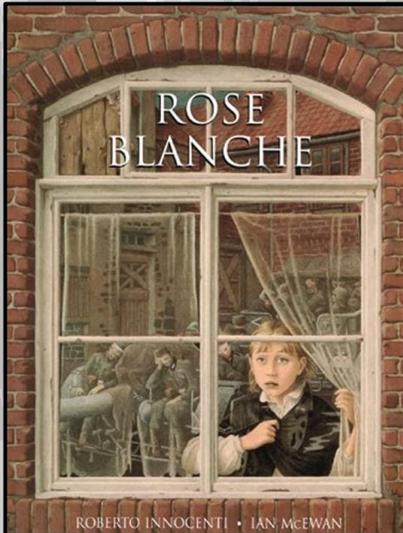
Margot (Anne's sister) wanted to train and become a maternity nurse when they got out the annex, while Anne wanted to become a writer and Journalist. She also wanted to turn her diary into a story called the "secret Annex."

Learning about Anne Frank made me want to find out more about her and maybe even visit where she lived in Amsterdam.
Vienna

I felt sorry for Anne Frank because she had to live in a small annex with her family. She must have been scared and worried all the time.
Sara

Rose Blanche Diaries

I found Rose Blanche very interesting and sometimes hard to believe. It was shocking to learn about the concentration camps.
Lilly



Monday 15th January 2024
writing a diary

17th December 1939 ✓

Dear Diary,

Today, has been the most shocking day of my life. Let me tell all about it. ✓

In the morning, I went for a stroll; I saw a horrible sight. A young boy (around my age) was running at the speed of light. You'll will never believe what I saw as well. A soldier. A soldier threatening to shoot the boy. The boy looking for safety - ran into the arms of the scary-looking, fat mayor. Gladfully, the mayor grabbed the boy by the scruff of the neck and throw him towards the soldier, who grabbed him roughly. The boy squirmed and screamed, trying to break free from the grip of the soldier. He was thrown into a truck full of small,

Valerie

to the fat mayor hoping for safety but the mayor dragged him back to the truck by the scruff of the neck. As I looked closely, I saw other children in the truck. They looked ^{desolate} sad and gloomy. Where were they going? Why are they sad? I wondered what was going on.

As the truck set off, I decided to follow it. I was practically ^{running after it} trying to follow it. Luckily, I knew shortcuts so I was able to follow it. Soon after, I saw my legs were tired after running for hours; my arms were scratched from the branches in the forest. I also went under a barrier - which I wasn't allowed to ^{go} through, but finally, after all that running, behind barbed wire, I saw a ton dozens of Jewish people trapped behind barbed wire. They were staring at me, begging for good

Ella

Rose Blanche Diaries

Leah

Monday 15th January 2024
Writing a diary

17th December 1939.

Dear diary,

You'll never believe what happened today! I'm outraged about what has happened. I'll tell you all about it...

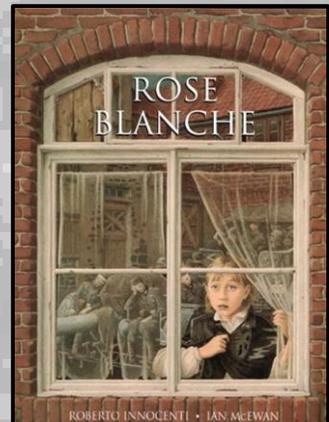
After school, I saw a boy that leaped out of a truck and a soldier threatening to shoot. He ran towards the grumpy sat mayor and the mayor grabbed him by the collar (the mayor somehow looked pleased with himself) and chucked him into the truck. The poor boy was crying as a soldier shouted at him. What is happening? I was so puzzled. What is happening?

Under the cover of the gloom, I was stunned into silence as ghastly - white, hopeless faces were just visible in the van. Who were those people? Why were they in the van? Where were they going?

Driving way to my wristily, I dashed after the repaired van, searching for answers, looking for the truth.

Although the van was fast, I wristily sprinted through shortcuts, across alleyways and through gardens. As the vehicle drove through a gate with barbed wire, I saw the Nazi flag fluttering in the wind. Dragged by my longing for the truth, I followed through a forest of shabby, leafless trees. In a clearing, my breath was sucked out as hundreds of distant, lonely eyes gazed me. They were all children, wearing the Star of David on their ragged clothes. They were in need of food, in need of warmth and in need of love. Rasping voices pleaded

Eddie L



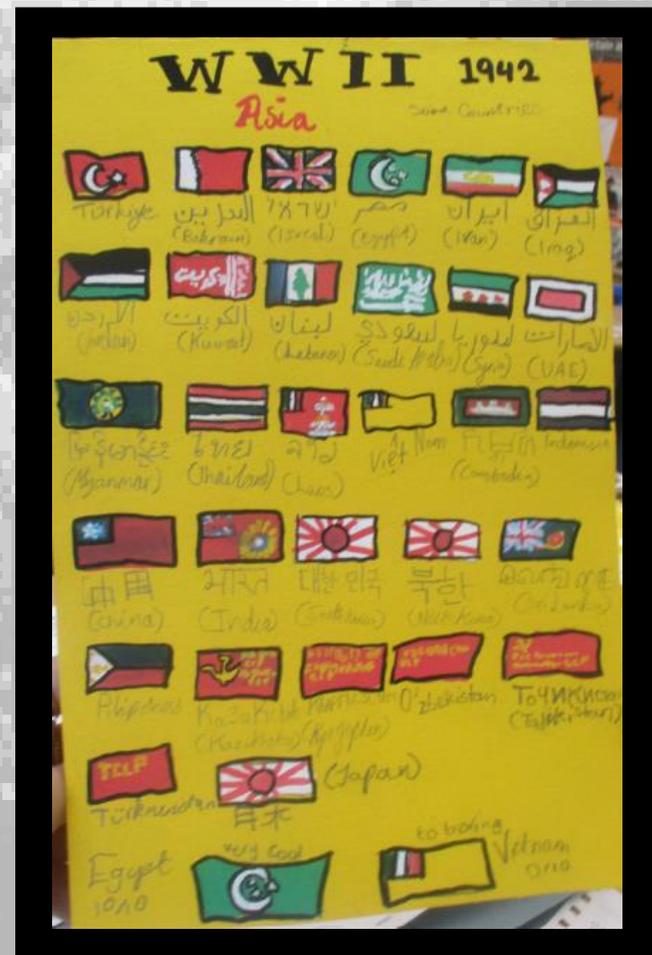
Fantastic pieces of home learning



Ella



Josh



Arjun



Josh

Cammy



Abi



Ava



Elliot

Leah

London Opinion
 This is the general London Opinion poster. This poster was used during World War I. In WW1, men between 18 and 41 were encouraged to fight. They didn't have to, but they were deeply encouraged. This poster is very persuasive because the man's finger pointing seems like he is looking and pointing directly at you. I think this is a good example of propaganda (noun) the spreading of ideas to influence public opinion in posters, or leaflets.

THE KITCHEN IS THE KEY TO VICTORY
 This poster was used in WW2. It was the Dig for Victory poster. This was targeted at women showing that you can get more food by growing it yourself. I think that these types of posters really helped because the more food people (civilians) had, the more energy we had. This poster was used in World War I. When the rationing was introduced (1918) everyone had rationing cards. They will go to the shop and get their weekly rations. They also needed food for the soldiers. This poster shows that eating less bread will help win the war as the soldiers will have more food. The poster also shows that your food doesn't all have to be from the shop. I think this poster helped As women did more in the Second World War, they were encouraged to do men's jobs. These could include: fire fighters, teachers, doctors, air raid wardens or even to work in a factory. This was because in WW2, men between the ages of 18 and 41 were forced to go to war. The poster also shows that women can't fight, but they can play a key role. I think this poster was successful.

DIG for Victory
 This poster was used in WW2. It was the Dig for Victory poster. This was targeted at women showing that you can get more food by growing it yourself. I think that these types of posters really helped because the more food people (civilians) had, the more energy we had.

We Can Do It!

Daisy

Bletchley Park
 Home of the Codebreakers

I visited Bletchley Park and found out about Enigma and Alan Turing making Bombe.

Follow my journey through Bletchley Park to discover how code breakers worked in secrecy to break the unbreakable.

9000 people worked relentlessly to help shorten the war and save millions of lives. Mathematicians, scientists, translators, code breakers, chess champions, and many more formed a team at Bletchley.

WELCOME
 BLETCHLEY PARK
 Home of the Codebreakers

THE CHALLENGE OF BREAKING THE UNBREAKABLE

9000 people worked relentlessly to help shorten the war and save millions of lives. Mathematicians, scientists, translators, code breakers, chess champions, and many more formed a team at Bletchley.

ALAN TURING'S OFFICE

1939 Turing applied to the Royal Society for a grant of £40 to engineer a special machine to calculate values. He is asked to join Bletchley Park.

1940 First Turing Bombe is installed at Bletchley.

1942 Turing and his colleagues break the more complicated German Naval Enigma.

1944 Colossus the world's first large scale electronic computer is installed at Bletchley Park.

It was the task of Bombe to discover the daily configuration to enable thousands of Enigma messages to be deciphered. Speed was the essence as the Nazis changed the settings daily.

Alan Turing was asked to find a way to break Enigma when the Germans introduced extra wheels.

Turing found a way to mechanise his way of comparing patterns to decrypt Enigma messages.

The first Turing-Welchman Bombe based machine known as Hears became operational in 1940.

OPERATING THE BOMBES

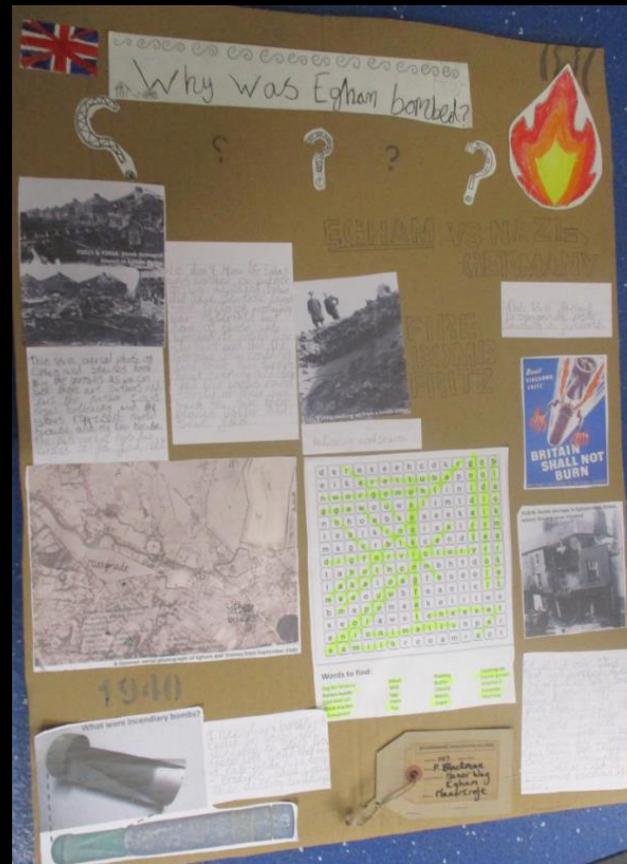
The Bombe machines were operated by women of the 'Wrens' (Women Royal Naval Air Station) in the 1940s. These women were known as 'code girls'.

LINE UP, BOYS!



Alvaro

Alvaro



Penny



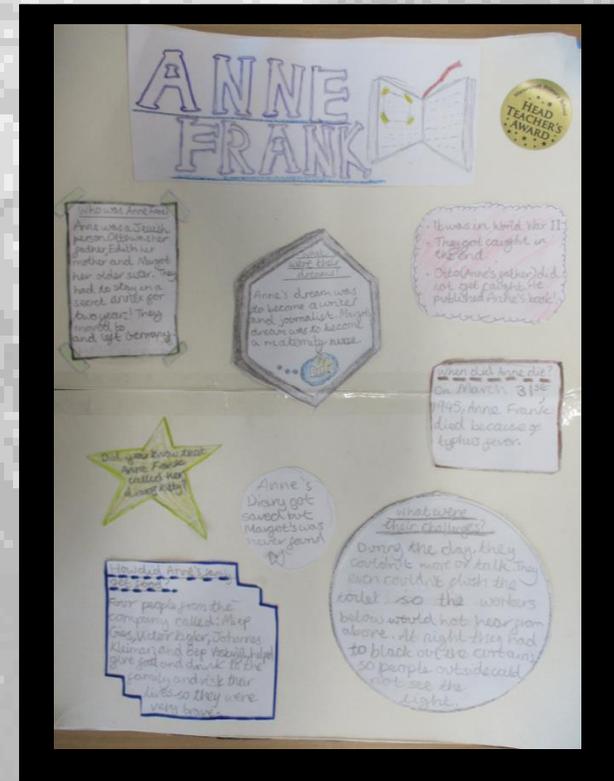
Penny



Jahnavi



Max



Valerie