

# World War II

**The big idea:** Through this topic, we will explore when and why World War II began and find out about the key individuals and countries involved. In addition to this, we will discover all about evacuation; learn what it was like to live with food rationing and investigate events that were key turning points in the war. Furthermore, we will research historic events such as the Battle of Britain. Studying World War II will help children to develop their investigation and evaluation skills and learn to organise information chronologically.

**As language specialists we will...** Use a range of rich texts and animated films including, *Beyond The Lines*, poetry and *The Piano* amongst many others to provide narrative writing techniques. We will be focussing on developing initial ideas and draw on research to describe setting descriptions, selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary and understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning. We will develop and enhance empathy skills to consider how characters were feeling, write diary entries taking on the role of a soldier. Following on from this, we will evaluate and analysis character dialogue, compare and describe settings and write non-chronological reports. During Autumn 2, we will be focussing on Poetry and link our learning to Remembrance Day.

**As geographers and historians, we will...** Learn what caused the outbreak of World War II and why Britain did go to war in 1939. We will explore key events including rationing, the role of women during the conflict, why was it necessary for children to be evacuated and what evacuation was really like. This will enable us to describe in detail the human characteristics of some of the largest cities of the United Kingdom, taking into account population, economic activity and transport systems compared to rural locations used for evacuees. Additionally, we will learn the key events of The Battle of Britain and study the human and physical geography linked to WW2.

**As mathematicians we will...** Recap the value of each digit, before exploring numbers to 10,000,000, in our Place Value topic. We will also complete detailed calculations for the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). We will be focusing on reasoning skills and how to use resources to extend our understanding. Later on, in the term we will be focussing on fractions and measurement.

**As scientists we will...** Investigate and develop our understanding on light including reflection, refraction, spectacular spectrum and shadows. We will learn key vocabulary to enhance and clarify our thinking. During Autumn 2, we will be learning about Living things and their habitats and describe how they are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences.

**As followers of God we will...** Use scriptures as the starting point and foundation of our learning. We will develop our understanding of Creation and Covenant and Prophecy and Promise to extend our prior knowledge through Catholic belief and teachings related to scriptures. We will incorporate our knowledge to cement a deep understanding of how Catholics live and their relationship with God.

**We will be thinking ambitiously about our Catholic Social Teaching...**

How can we encourage others to value and care for creation?

How should we treat each other?

What is true community?

**As expressive artists:** We will be exploring scale, tone/shading, visual texture, pattern, shape & composition on drawings linked to The Blitz, WW2 posters and learning printing techniques.

**As computer specialists:** We will learn about being safe online and computer science.

**As fitness experts:** We will be learning the skills of sending and receiving and throwing and catching. Later in the term we will delving into football skills including; dribbling and kicking.

**As musicians:** We will be listening and responding to music, learning musical language, research how music played a role in World War II and focus on singers including Dame Vera Lynn.

**'Knowledge of the World'** Comparisons between life of now and life of then, whilst examining the concept of sacrifice from different perspectives.

**'Ambitious thinking'**

Did past events from WW2 shape the world we know today?

**'Citizenship'**

We will learn about how we are all citizens of the world.