

Key Dates		WW1	1914-1918
Sept 1939	Germans invade Poland. War declared by Britain and France two days later.	<p>Growing political and national tensions in Europe saw countries equipping themselves for war and creating alliances – making everyone nervous. The spark that started WW1 was when Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary was assassinated by a Serbian called Princip.</p> <p>Kaiser Wilhem, leader of Germany, send Serbia a harsh ultimatum. When they refused, war started.</p> <p>During the conflict, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire (the Central Powers) fought against Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy, Romania, Japan and the United States (the Allied Powers).</p> <p>All sides suffered greatly – but it was the central powers who ‘lost’.</p>	
Jan 1940	Rationing introduced.		
May 1940	Winston Churchill takes over from Neville Chamberlain, delivers famous speech “I have nothing to offer but...”		
May/ June 1940	British expeditionary force evacuated from Dunkirk. Churchill delivers famous “We shall fight them on the beaches...” speech		
June 1940	Children are evacuated. Italy enters the war and declares war on Britain and France.		
Aug 1940	The Battle of Britain. Churchill delivers famous “Never in the field of human conflict...” speech.		
Sept 1940	The Blitz.		
Dec 1941	Japan bombs US Naval Base at Pearl Harbour. USA declares war on Japan and enters WW2.		
June 1944	D-Day: British, US & Canadian troops land in Normandy for Operation Overlord.		
May 1945	Germany surrenders VE Day		
		Some causes of World War 2	
		<p>WW1 – One of the main causes of WW2 was WW1. The losing sides felt they had been treated unfairly, and there was a lot of anger and resentment in Europe due to the massive damage caused by WW1.</p>	
		<p>Treaty of Versailles – brought WW1 top an end. Officially blamed Germany, who was made to pay back a huge amount of money to countries it had damaged (mainly France) , and promise to give back land it had invaded and de-arm its military .</p>	
		<p>Nazi Germany is the common English name for Germany between 1933 and 1945, when Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party controlled the country through a dictatorship. Under Hitler's rule, Germany was transformed into a totalitarian state (all aspects of life being controlled by the government), as well seeking to invade most of Europe to purify their race</p>	
		<p>German invasion of Poland, 1939– the trigger point which began the war, Germany invades Poland using Blitzkrieg. Britain and France could no longer ignore Germany’s actions and declared war.</p>	