

Year 6 – WW2

Subject Specific Vocabulary		Timeline		Key Facts	
Axis	Countries which fought on the German side (including: Italy, Germany, Japan (1939-1941))	1st September 1939	In 1933, Adolf Hitler rose to power as the political leader of Germany. Germany invades Poland. Britain insists Germany withdraw troops from Poland. The Germans refuse. Britain declares war on 3rd Sep 1939. Britain initially responded with bombing raids over Germany.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adolf Hitler, together with the Nazi Party, wanted Germany to rule Europe. To gain more land and power, on 1 September 1939 German troops invaded Poland. After Hitler refused to stop the invasion, Britain and France declared war on Germany – World War II had begun. During the course of the war, German forces advanced through Europe. By the summer of 1941 they had invaded France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Denmark, Norway, Greece, Yugoslavia and the USSR. The group most heavily targeted by the Nazis were the Jews. Around six million Jewish people were killed during World War 2 in one of history's most terrible events – the Holocaust. Racist in his views, Hitler blamed Jewish people for Germany losing World War I and claimed they were dangerous to German people and society. 	
Allies	Countries which fought on the British side (including: USA, Great Britain, France, Russia (1941-1945))	1939 Onwards	Children were evacuated from cities expected to be bombed as enemy planes targeted factories etc. Children were evacuated to the countryside.		
Nazi	Member of the German political group which came to power in 1933	10th May 1940	Chamberlain resigned and Winston Churchill was chosen to be his successor as Prime Minister on May 10, 1940.		
Evacuation	Organised movement of children and the vulnerable from towns and cities to safe zones	June 1940	Evacuation of Dunkirk Large numbers of troops were surrounded by Germans at the French coastal town of Dunkirk. 338, 226 were saved by a fleet of 800 boats. This is known as the 'Miracle of Dunkirk'.		
Evacuee	Someone who was evacuated, moved from a danger area to a safer place.	6th June 1944	D-Day The Normandy landings were a series of landing operations by the Allies to claim Europe. It was the largest seaborne operation in history.		
Blitz	A series of bombing raids on the UK	7th May 1945	Germany surrenders: the allies had forced the surrender of Axis troops in Europe. On 7 th May 1945 Germany surrender to the Allies – the end of war in Europe.		
Propaganda	Controlling news media (such as radio) to depict the war effort	8th May 1945	VE Day The VE in VE Day stands for Victory in Europe. It was the public holiday of 8th May 1945 to mark the defeat of Germany by the Allied forces in World War 2.		
Holocaust	Murder of Jews and other groups of people by the Nazis	6th August 1945	Atomic bomb on Hiroshima Japan refused to surrender, threatening to fight on. The US considered invasion but this would have led to deaths of 500,000. On the 6 th of Aug and 9 th Aug, the US dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki and Hiroshima.		
Luftwaffe	The German Airforce.	15th August 1945	End of WW2 The surrender of Japan was announced on August 15 th 1945.		
Refugee	A person who has been forced to leave their country to escape war.				
Famous people					
		 			
		Adolf Hitler Winston Churchill			
				Local links: Victoria tunnel visit Sunderland was a key target for bombing due to the shipbuilding industry. On Wearside nearly 7,000 civilians were maimed or killed during bombing raids.	