**Knowledge Organiser- Year 6 – Autumn 1/World War 2 – What was the impact of WW2 on Leeds?**

**Timeline A brief timeline of events**

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| **1933** | Hitler became Chancellor of Germany and began to take back land that they had lost in World War 1 (WW1).  |
| **1939** | Hitler invaded Poland. Britain listened to the radio. Neville Chamberlain said we were at war with Germany. |
| **1940** | The Blitz began and Winston Churchill became Prime Minister.  |
| **1944** | The Allied Forces of Britain, America, Canada, and France attacked German forces on the coast of Normandy, [France](https://www.ducksters.com/geography/country/france.php). |
| **1945** | The war in Europe was over! The British people had street parties to celebrate.  |

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| **Key People**  |
| **1** | **Neville Chamberlain** | Neville Chamberlain was a **British politician who served as the country’s Prime Minister** from 1937 until 1940. He declared war on Germany at the start of WW2. |
| **2** | See the source image**Winston Churchill**  | Winston Churchill was the **government leader who led the United Kingdom** to victory during World War II (from 1940-1945). He was one of the greatest public speakers of his time. He was also a bold soldier (in WW1) and a gifted writer. |
| **3** | **Adolf Hitler** | Adolf Hitler was the **leader of Germany** from 1933 to 1945. He was leader of the Nazi party and became a powerful dictator.  |

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| **Key Vocabulary** |
| **1** | **Propaganda** | Information designed to promote a political idea or opinion. |
| **2** | **Parliament**  | Debates, makes laws, checks and challenges the work of the government.  |
| **3** | **Sacrifice** | To give up (something) especially for the sake of something or someone else. For example: ‘They sacrificed their lives for their country’. |
| **4** | **Diversity** | Diversity means that there are **lots of different kinds of things**. Just as there are lots of different makes of cars, bikes, balls or just about anything you can think of, so there is diversity among people. |
| **5** | **Major influence** | To have an influence on **people or situations means to affect what they do or what happens** |

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| **Key Concepts** |
| **1** | **A series of events, from the end of WW1, led to Britain declaring war on Adolf Hitler and Germany.**  | Germany was defeated in WW1, in 1918. They had to give up a lot of their land and pay harsh penalties. This made them very angry. In 1929 the Great Depression hit and there was shortages of food and money all over the word, including Germany. Many people lost their jobs. In 1933, Adolf Hitler, the leader of the Nazis, became chancellor of Germany. He promised the people he would make Germany a powerful country again. Hitler also spread hate. He believed Germans were the superior race and better than anyone else. In 1938 he began to take land back and invaded Austria and Czech-Slovakia. Then in 1939 he invaded Poland. Britain (and France) had agreed to defend Poland again German attacks so they gave Hitler an ultimatum: withdraw his troops or they would declare war. The Germans had not responded meaning Britain was now at war with Germany! |
| **2** | **The UK parliament had an important role during WW2.**  | The Prime Minister, Winston Churchill (from 1940-1945), promised Britain, in parliament, that they would never surrender in WW2! Parliament was responsible for passing laws that allowed the government to call up citizens to joined the armed forces, ration food an evacuate children out of harm’s way when the bombs began to fall. Parliament kept an eye on the government, asking questions about how the war was being fought and voted how well Winston Churchill was doing.  |
| **3** | **Children in Leeds were affected by WW2**  | Many children were sent to other parts of the country thought to be at lower risk from bombing. These children were called evacuees. Many children from Leeds were evacuated to smaller towns and villages in more rural parts of Yorkshire, such as Northallerton, Leyburn and Masham.   |
| **4** | **Propaganda was used to persuade people to join the war effort.**  | The British government created posters and films as propaganda; information that changed how the public viewed the war. It was also used to tell people what they needed to know to understand the war.  |
| **5** | **Leeds supported the war effort in many ways.**  | * Leeds Council set up Air Raid Precaution posts. They protected people and buildings across Leeds from the impact of Air Raids.
* First Aid posts were set up across Leeds. At Armley and Bramley swimming baths the water was removed and floors laid so they could be used as First Aid stations.
* There were two prisoner of war camps in Leeds. No 244 on Butcher Hill, West Park and No 91 on Post Hill at Farnley.
* Leeds based businesses played their part in the war effort; making army uniforms, weapons and tanks.
* Waddingtons, famous for making board games, printed maps on cloth and inserted them secretly into Monopoly games. These were sent to Prisoner Of War camps. Money was also included in the packs. If there was a dot after Mayfair a map of Germany was inside. These maps helped 35,000 troops to escape.
* By the end of WW2 over 100,000 Leeds men and 10,000 women had joined the army.
* In Leeds there were 14,000 domestic air raid shelters. There were 132 public shelters including one under the Grand Theatre.
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