



Broadoak Academy

VE Day Challenge

Friday 8th May 2020



“My dear friends, this is your hour. This is not victory of a party or of any class. It’s a victory of the great British nation as a whole.” Winston Churchill, VE Day 8th May 1945

The whole nation contributed during World War 2. Families grew their own food and women took up a range of vital work, including tank building, working in munitions factories and farming. Men who were too old or too young to enlist formed a Home Guard to prepare against a potential German invasion and children were evacuated to the countryside.

VE Day happened on the 8th May 1945 and represents victory in Europe, this year we commemorate the 75 year anniversary.

VE day in a nutshell:

- There was lots to celebrate on VE day – but much to feel uncertain about as it was the end of conflict in Europe but not the hardship.
- People had endured bombing, rations and the loss of loved ones. Some families still had members serving abroad or confined in prisoner of war camps.
- After VE Day the war continued outside of Europe, with many servicemen sent to the Pacific to continue to fight.
- The war in the Pacific would continue until August 1945, and rationing stayed in place until 1954.



For the Bank Holiday we are providing you with some
VE Day Challenges to reflect on this historic day:



1. Watch a summary of VE day: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-ve-day/z7xtmfr>
2. Listen to the original iconic speech from Winston Churchill addressing the nation on VE day **on BBC1 at 2:45pm**
3. During the war Princess Elizabeth (our now Queen) enlisted in the Women’s Auxiliary Territorial Service, training as a mechanic and military truck driver. She was the first female royal to join the Armed Services as a full time member. The King and Queen remained in London during the war and when Buckingham Palace was bombed *the Queen famously said: “I am glad. I can now look the East End in the face.”*
Discuss with your family - why you think she said this? (Consider her position during the war).
4. Create an acrostic poem using the word **VICTORY**.
5. Take a screen break and listen to some music of the time – **can you imagine what people would have seen and how they felt?**
6. Have a tea party – at the time people celebrated with street parties, in this time of social distancing **can you have your own tea party?**
7. Leave a message for VE day through the Royal British Legion: <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/march-poppy-press/leave-your-ve-day-message>
8. VE day is a celebration and commemoration of collaborative working – **can you help around house with jobs that may need doing?**

What is the difference between celebration and commemoration? To *celebrate* is to acknowledge a significant event with a social gathering or enjoyable activity. To *commemorate* is to recall and show respect for something, and to reflect on what it means.

We would love to see and hear about your VE day celebrations and challenges, please email your news and photos to: parents@broadoakacademy.clf.uk