

Week 1 : Key Terms

- **Militarism:** When countries build up their armed forces and weaponry
- **Alliances:** Countries working together for protection against other countries
- **Imperialism:** To desire a large empire
- **Nationalism:** A love of nation, to the point of excluding other nations
- **Empire:** When one country takes over another country
- **Kaiser:** The King or Emperor of Germany
- **Assassination:** To murder by sudden or secret attack
- **Black Hand Gang:** a group of Serbian nationalists in Bosnia fighting for independence from the Austro-Hungary
- **Armistice:** an agreement to end warfare whilst a treaty is written and agreed

Week 2: Causes of World War One

- In 1871 Germany became a country
- After 1888 the leader of Germany was Kaiser Wilhelm II
- This caused tensions between the Great Powers of Europe
- In the 1900s, many countries began to set up alliances with each other.
- In the 1900s Germany and Britain were in competition to have the largest navy.
- This was called the naval arms race.
- The Germans were jealous of the British Dreadnought.
- Most European countries wanted to expand their empire in Africa, this was called the "Scramble for Africa" .
- There were two main alliances
- The Triple Entente - This was an agreement between Britain, France and Russia.
- The Triple Alliance - This was an agreement between Germany and Austria-Hungary.

Week 3: Causes of World War One

- Bosnia was a small country that was controlled by Austria-Hungary.
- Bosnia wanted independence and to join Serbia.
- In 1914" The Black Hand Gang", a group fighting for freedom planned to kill the heir of the Austrian-Hungarian throne, the Archduke Franz Ferdinand
- The assassin was called Gavrilo Princip.
- The Austro-Hungarian government threatened to go to war with Serbia as it was people from their country that had killed their future king.
- Russia were on the side of Serbia and also part of the Triple Entente
- Austria– Hungary was part of the Triple Alliance
- This meant that the war declarations brought in other countries, leading to the First World War.

Week 4: Life in the Trenches

- **Stalemate:** When neither side is winning or losing in a battle
- The First World War resulted in a stalemate due to the new technology used in warfare
- On the Western Front the war was fought by soldiers in trenches
- Trenches were long, narrow ditches dug into the ground where soldiers lived
- They were very muddy, uncomfortable and the toilets overflowed
- These conditions caused some soldiers to develop medical problems such as trench foot, trench fever, gangrene
- The trenches stretched for over 475 miles, from the Swiss Alps to the English Channel
- In the middle was no man's land, which soldiers crossed to attack the other side
- No man's land was This very dangerous.

Week 5: Verdun and the Somme

- February 1916: The Battle of Verdun began.
- The German General targeted Verdun as he felt it was important to the French and he wanted to exhaust the French army
- In the afternoon, 1 million German soldiers fought against 200,000 French defenders.
- The French called upon the Senegalese Tirailleurs to fight at Verdun
- July 1916: The Battle of the Somme began
- The British troops attacked the Germans at the river Somme to relieve the pressure from the French at Verdun
- 620,000 Allied troops were killed at the Somme.
- The British leader at the Somme was General Haig

Week 6 : The End of the War

- Germany was defeated due to the Kaiser abdicating the throne and the country starving
- Eight million soldiers died and many more were damaged physically or mentally.
- Nine million civilians died.
- Twelve million tons of shipping was sunk
- On the Western Front, the war destroyed 300,000 houses, 6,000 factories, 1,000 miles of railway and 112 coal mines.
- Germany had to sign a harsh treaty called The Treaty of Versailles.
- The First World War is seen as one of the main causes of The Second World War
- Armistice: an agreement to end warfare whilst a treaty is written and agreed