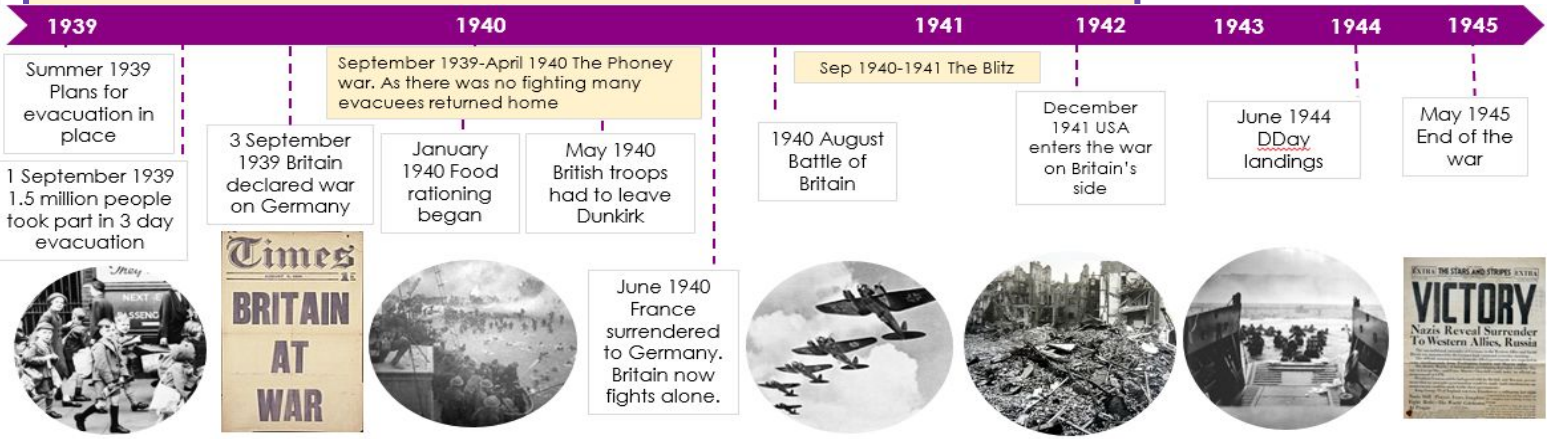
History Knowledge Organiser – Britain during World War II

Key Vocabulary

Allies	**Countries fighting on the same side**
Anderson shelter	**Outdoor steel cage shelters put up in gardens and covered with earth**
Battle of Britain	**Famous victory in the air battle involving Spitfires which took place in the skies of Kent in the summer of 1940 when Britain alone was fighting Germany**
Blitz	**Lighting attacks by German bombers on British ports and cities, London and Coventry were worst hit.**
Censorship	**The government control of news to make sure it didn't help the enemy**
Civilian	**Someone not in the armed forces**
Evacuation	**Large-scale sending of children from cities likely to be bombed to safe places in the countryside**
Home Guard	**1.5 million men between ages of 17 and 65 who guarded the coast and important army posts**
Propaganda	**The government made sure that posters and radio messages persuaded people that the war was going well.**
Rationing	**Because German ships stopped food coming into the country, there were shortages of food. People had to use a card which allowed them only a limited amount of certain items, including essential food.**

What we have already learnt

Crime & punishment in Britain over the last 800 years.

Key Learning

1. World War 2 began in **1939** and ended in **1945**
2. Britain declared war on Germany following a period of **appeasement** including Hitler breaking many terms of the Treaty of Versailles.
3. The **Blitz** was a period of intense bombing of British cities.
4. Many children were **evacuated** to the countryside to be safe.
5. Winston **Churchill** was Prime Minister for much of the war following Neville Chamberlain.
6. Britain won the war with help from the USA, Russia and troops from across the British Empire.
7. Everyone had a part to play in the war, including women who worked in factories, farming transport and defence doing jobs such as delivering planes.
8. The government made use of **propaganda** to persuade the people that the war was going well.