



# OTESFOR SCHOOLS

## VE Day Activity Pack



Be informed.



Be curious.



Be heard.



We would like to extend a special thank you to the staff & pupils at **S. Anselm's Prep School** for providing some great inspiration & ideas for this pack!



# Starter: What's it all about?

Outside the Houses of Parliament



Trafalgar Square Fountains



What do you think happened in London on VE Day and why?  
Use the pictures to help you!



East Acton



The Strand



# How can I celebrate **VE Day 2020**?





# Why are we talking about this?

You might be wondering why there is a bank holiday coming up this Friday...



The reason is very special: **8<sup>th</sup> May marks 75 years since VE Day** – “VE” stands for “Victory in Europe”. The Government decided to have the **bank holiday on a Friday instead of a Monday** to mark this **significant anniversary**<sup>1</sup>.

On this day in 1945, the **Second World War was officially ended** after **six years (and one day) of fighting**. As you can imagine, there was quite the celebration, with **over a million people taking to the streets**<sup>1</sup>!



Click the bottom image to find out a bit more about VE Day and WW2<sup>2</sup>!



0:00-4:51



# Why are we talking about this?

Nowadays, the celebrations include things like **street parties**, **displays from the armed forces** and **people from around the country coming together** to mark the occasion. In 2015, the Red Arrows did a very **special flypast** and **political party leaders laid wreaths**<sup>1</sup>.



This year, things will be a little different as we are **currently unable to get together** for parties or community celebrations. But, in the spirit of **keeping calm and carrying on**, you are going to find out a bit more about **alternative ways you can celebrate**.



Did you know **Captain Tom Moore** served in World War II? Click the image to watch the **RAF flypast for his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday**<sup>2</sup>!



0:00-4:45



# Get creative!

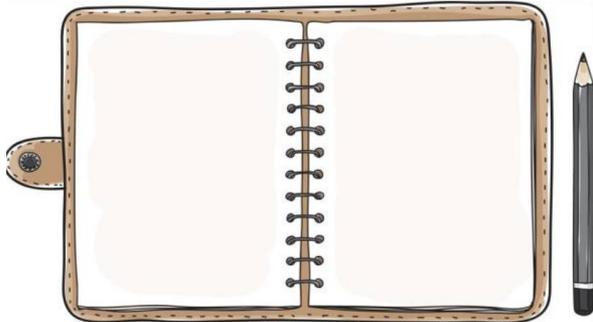
## Did you know?

On VE Day in 1945, 19-year old Princess Elizabeth and her sister Margaret secretly left Buckingham Palace and joined the crowds celebrating the end of the war!

Queen Elizabeth later described it as **“one of the most memorable nights of my life!”**

## Just imagine...

What do you think it was like? Write a diary entry imagining you were at the original VE Day celebrations!



The sound of bombs and silence has been replaced with...

Now, the streets are filled with...



0:00-2:23

In 2015, a film was made about it! Click the image to see the trailer.

The war has been raging for 6 long years...

To know it's finally over makes me feel...



## Want to know more?

Click the image to explore more photos and facts about VE Day!



# Get creative!

## Feeling arty?

Here's a few things you could do over the next few days to get ready for VE Day!



**Tommy:**  
WWI slang for an English soldier!

## A Tommy in your window!

The Royal British Legion is encouraging people to put a silhouette of a British soldier in their window to celebrate. Why not have a go at making your own?

## Great British Bunting!

You can't have a Great British party without a bit of bunting! The BBC are offering instructions on how to make Great British bunting which you can decorate however you like. Click to get started!



## Recreate the moment!



Try recreating some of the VE Day photos from 1945 by setting your camera to "black and white" to get the original effect!

Remember to share your creations on social media using the hashtag **#votesathome!**





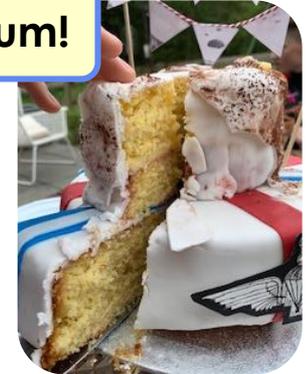
# Get creative!

Here's a cake one of our voters made earlier...

Is there **anything more British** than a really good cake, bun or tart?  
Get your baker's hats on and **try out some British recipes!**



Yum!



Who would you make a cake for?



Fairy Cakes

**British Bake off!**  
Click the pictures to see the recipes!



Victoria Sponge



Scones

Rice Krispie Cakes



Irish Soda Bread



# What can I do on the day?



## **A very British Bank Holiday**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May is VE Day, and there's lots of things you can do to make this day one to remember, while still staying safe & well!





# What can I do on the day?

## 11am: Two-minute silence

At 11am, there will be a two-minute silence to remember the lives lost in the war.



## Afternoon: VE Day party!

Have a look at the next slide for ideas on how to celebrate VE Day 2020!



## 3pm: Raise your glass

With the “Nation's Toasts to the Heroes of WWII”, raise a glass to those who kept us safe back then, and the one keeping us safe now. You could do this as part of your VE Day party. Feel free to share your photos!

## 9pm: Queen's Speech

The Queen will be giving a speech at 9pm on the BBC – the exact time her father, King George VI, addressed the nation on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1945.



0:00-1:24

## Followed by: A national sing-along

After the Queen's speech, there will be a national sing-along to wartime favourite “We'll Meet Again” – click the image to learn the words!



# What can I do on the day?



Have a 1940s-style picnic with sandwiches, sausage rolls, scones, cakes, tea, lemonade and more!



Get dressed up in 1940s clothes, or in red, white & blue. You could also take black & white photos!



Decorate your home in red, white and blue!

Listen to music and have an old-fashioned singalong!



Organise a socially-distanced street party, like this one in Stoke!

Want some downloadable decorations? Click the image to get bunting, posters and more!



Friday 8th May

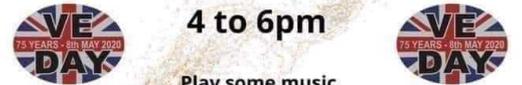
## VE DAY

75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War

community based socially distanced 'Stay at Home' celebration

### STREET PARTY

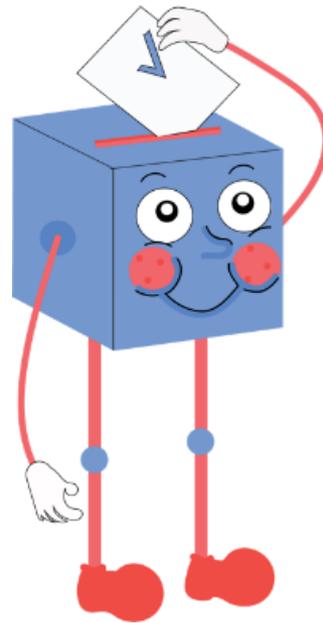
Place a table and chair(s) outside your house on the pavement or front garden  
Make your own 'picnic food and have a few drinks.  
Keeping to the 2 metre rule



Play some music  
Decorate the front of you house in red white and blue  
Decorate your front window  
Dress up in 1940's clothes or in red, white and blue



**You can find more of our resources at:**  
[votesforschools.com/downloads](https://votesforschools.com/downloads)



**Be informed. Be curious. Be heard!**

If you have any issues, feedback or comments, email  
[amy@votesforschools.com](mailto:amy@votesforschools.com)!