

# Victory in Europe



- Victory in Europe Day is known as VE Day.
- It took place on May 8<sup>th</sup> 1945.
- The Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, told everyone that Germany had been defeated by the Allied forces in Second World War.
- It was a day of celebration.
- This year, it will have been 75 years since the end of World War II in Europe.

## Time to Celebrate



- People ran out on to the streets, hanging bunting and banners and dancing.
- Church bells rang across the country to share the news: peace in Europe!
- Everyone brought out food to share at street parties.
- May 8<sup>th</sup> was to be a national day of celebration: Victory in Europe Day.





## Time to Celebrate



- The capital city, London, was the place to be on VE Day.
- People wanted to travel to London to celebrate with other people.
- The centre of London was full of people wearing red, white and blue, waving flags, dancing and singing.
- Fireworks filled the sky with flashes of light.

#### "The German war is therefore at an end."



- On VE Day, everyone in the country sat listening to their radios. They wanted to hear the news from Winston Churchill.
- At 3pm the Prime Minister broadcast to the nation: the war was over in Europe.

### London



- Crowds gathered in Trafalgar Square and up The Mall.
- They were waiting for Winston Churchill and King George VI to make an appearance on the balcony of Buckingham Palace.



### **VE Day This Year**

- This year, the celebrations which were planned have had to be cancelled because of the virus.
- There were going to be lots of street parties but now we are being asked to celebrate in our own homes.
- It can still be a day of celebration in our homes.
- You can decorate your home with bunting.
- You can have a party in your house or garden with the people who live with you.
- The Queen is going to make a speech at 9 o'clock which is the same time as her father, King George VI, made a speech on the radio 75 years ago.