Friday 8th May 2020

VE Day

VE Day stands for Victory in Europe Day – it was considered the formal ending of the Second World War following the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany. Fighting did continue in the Far East and South East Asia as Japan continued with the war – all fighting didn’t conclude until August 1945.

However, after five and a half years of fighting with Nazi Germany the war was considered to be over with Germany. At the end of the Second World War people were happy that the fighting had stopped. However, lots of things like food were still rationed. On VE Day itself lots of people held street parties, but they also remembered those who had still not returned from fighting and those who would never return.

Watch the clip below to learn more about VE Day.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-ve-day/z7xtmfr>

**You can choose to complete some of the tasks below.**

1. Make your own VE Day bunting or flags, just like the ones you use when you have a birthday or celebration – what messages would you put on it for this year?
2. During the war people wrote letters to each other – they often spoke about the fun they would have when the war was over. Write a letter to a friend or relative about what you are looking forward to doing when the current restrictions lift.
3. Organise a house tea party for VE Day with just the people you live with. What games and activities should you play? (Jam sandwiches were popular during the war – perhaps you can make some of those?
4. Listen to the stories of people from the Second World War and remember VE Day:  
   <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02q3cwy>
5. Draw your own picture of what a street party might be like – make it really colourful. Who might be in your picture?
6. In the news recently there has been a lot of stories about Captain Tom Moore, a Second World War veteran – can you find out what he did during the Second World War?
7. Find out how different people in Europe acknowledged and commemorated VE Day.