Autumn 2 – WWI

The impact of WWI

- Southampton was one of the most important **port cities** during WWI. War ships, soldiers and supplies were sent off for battle from the port.
- Local people worked harder and hospitals were set up in schools and public buildings to care for injured soldiers returning from the battle field.

Causes of WWI

- World War One started in **1914** and ended in **1918**.
  - **Allied powers:** Britain, France, USA and Russia
  - **Central powers:** Austria/Hungary, Germany, the Ottoman Empire
- The main causes of World War I were **alliances**, **militarism**, **imperialism**, **nationalism** and the **Assassination** of **Archduke Franz Ferdinand**

The People of Britain

- During WWI, not everyone went to fight and lots of people at home helped in important ways to support the soldiers.
- The people in Britain helped the soldiers by sending food, clothes, and letters to keep the soldiers spirits high.
- People were encouraged to grow fruits and vegetables in their gardens and fields to make sure there was enough to eat. This was called **Dig for Victory**.



Life in the trenches

- **Trenches** were long, deep ditches that soldiers dug to protect themselves from enemy fire.
  - Trenches were where soldiers slept, ate, and fought.
  - The battle area between the sides was called, **No Man's Land**.
  - Most trenches were on the **Western Front**. A long line of battle stretching across **France** and **Belgium**.

Women and WWI

- Before WWI, women were treated very differently to men. They were not allowed to vote and it was uncommon for women to have jobs.
- Men were **conscripted** to the fight so women had to do the jobs of men to keep the country running.
- This was **significant** because after the war, many people recognised that women deserved more **rights** and opportunities, including the right to vote.

The Christmas Day Truce

- A **truce** is an agreement between two enemies to stop fighting for a certain time.
- In **December 1914**, British and German soldiers, on the Western Front, stopped fighting each other to celebrate Christmas.