

# St Hilary School – History Knowledge Organiser

## Project: WW1 – Can war ever be truly Great?

## Year 6

## Strand: Post 1066

### What should I already know?

- The location the UK, France, Germany in the continent of Europe
- The chronology of British history
- What empire building is – purposes, motivations.

### What caused WW1?

**Political unrest between Europe's powerful nations grew as each tried to demonstrate its power:**

- M** is for Militarism
- A** is for Alliances
- I** is for Imperialism
- N** is for Nationalism

**The 'trigger point' - the moment war could no longer be avoided:**

Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie were assassinated on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1914, in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, by Gavrillo Princip (Black Hand Assassins – fighting for independence for Bosnians).  
This caused a domino effect as Europe's major powers all reacted to this murder.

### What made people decide to sign up and fight?

- People felt **national pride** and wanted to 'do their bit' to keep Britain Great.
- **Propaganda, the press and peer pressure** made men feel they were obliged to sign up and that if they did not they were letting down family, friends, the country.
- Men thought **victory would be easy and war would be an adventure** to explore the world with their friends.
- **Conscription** was introduced meaning men had to sign up

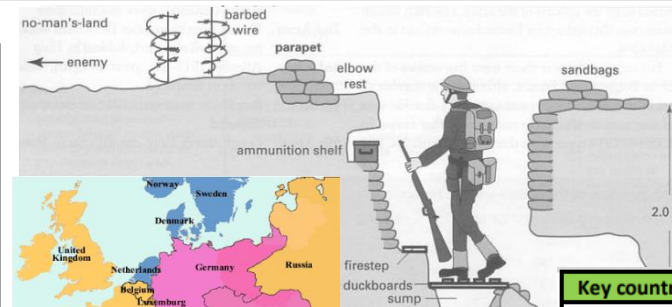
Some men refused to sign up - they were known as **conscientious objectors**, they could be imprisoned, face death by firing squad and were often treated very badly by the public.

### What will I know about trench warfare in WW1 by the end of the project?

- **WW1** - the first large scale conflict fought largely in **trenches**.
- Trench warfare saw two **front lines** of enemy soldiers 100s of metres apart in trenches - dug ditches - to provide protection and shelter.
- They were fighting to move their front line forward across the disputed land in between known as '**no-man's land**'.
- The front line stretched for more than **400 miles** from the Swiss border in the south through France and Belgium to the coast.
- Life in the trenches (there were four main types) was extremely difficult and often extremely unpleasant - causing problems such as **trench foot, shell-shock, lice infestations, extreme cold and tiredness and many thousands of casualties**.
- **The Battle of the Somme** - from 1st July to 18th November 1916 - day one of the battle was the bloodiest in British army history .
- **The 3rd battle of Ypres (Passchendaele)** - 31st July to 10th November 1917 - one of the war's bloodiest and most controversial battles. WW1 saw the development of much **new weaponry** - gas, tanks, planes, Zeppelins and increasingly powerful artillery.

### Vocabulary

Militarism	building a countries armed forces
Alliances	agreeing bonds to help protect other nations
Imperialism	empire building to gain international strength
Nationalism	building a sense of nation pride
Conscription	Compulsory enlistment into the armed forces
Trenches	Long narrow ditches dug to shelter from attack
Propaganda	Techniques to make people think a certain way
Allies	Friends you can trust – other countries in WW1.
Armistice	An agreement to stop fighting – in war.
Assassinate	To kill an important religious or political figure.
No-man's land	Disputed land between two opposing armies.
Rationing	Allowing each person a fixed amount of a resource.
Shell shock	Mental illness caused by exposure to active warfare.
Surrender	To give in to the opposition.
Tank	A heavily armoured fighting vehicle.
Treaty	A formal agreement between states / nations.
Submarine	A warship designed to operate underwater.
Artillery	Large guns used in war on land.
Shells	An explosion artillery bomb.
Invasion	When a country uses force, take control of another.
Prime Minister	The head of an elected government / state.



### Key countries:

**The Triple Alliance** - UK (and the Commonwealth Nations), France, Russia (USA from 1917)  
**Vs**  
**The Central Powers** - Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, Turkey

28<sup>th</sup> June 1914 – Arch-duke Franz Ferdinand Assassinated.

4<sup>th</sup> August 1914 – Britain declares war on Germany.

1<sup>st</sup> July to 18<sup>th</sup> November 1916 – The Battle of Somme

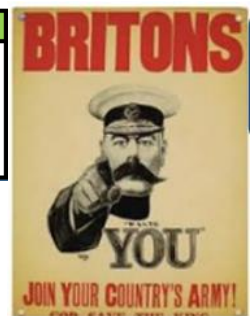
31<sup>st</sup> July 1917 – The third Battle of Ypres.

30<sup>th</sup> July 1914 – Russia and Germany declare war

27<sup>th</sup> January 1916 – conscription introduced.

6<sup>th</sup> April 1917 – USA enters the war.

11<sup>th</sup> November 1918 – Armistice Day – WW1 ends



Lord Kitchener Wants ...