VE Day 8th May 2020

VE DAY 75th CELEBRATION

VE Day, which stands for Victory of Europe Day, was the day on which allied forces announced the surrender of Germany in Europe on May 8th, 1945. It marked the end of Adolf Hitler's reign and was a cause for celebration all over the world. At 3pm that day, Prime Minister Winston Churchill told the nation that the war was over. In London, a crowd of 50,000 celebrated the momentous event in Piccadilly Circus, cheering and waving flags in the street. This year is particularly poignant, given that it's the 75th anniversary of VE Day, so why not celebrate however we can in lockdown. All the below challenges are open to interpretation—in fact the weirder the interpretation the better! We'd love to hear how you get on with each challenge and evidence would be gratefully received—get the whole family involved and have fun!

Decorating for victory

The BBC are encouraging the British public to make their own bunting to display in their homes over VE Day weekend.
You are already pros at bunting, so why not make some to decorate your door or window. It doesn't have to be sewn; you can make it out of anything. The BBC have created a step-by-step guide to making your own bunting, as well as a template for you to print out.
https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4TrqYDyf4PMdLypxzyTwGDg/great-british-bunting

Singing for victory

You will probably remember that Britain sang their way through WW2 and when it ended, they sang then too! It only seems fitting that we have a song challenge. You could…
> Perform an existing WW2 song to your family
> Rewrite an existing WW2
> Write a song based on WW2 or VE-Day (changing the lyrics to popular songs often works well)
> You could go really modern and write a rap

Eating for victory

We know you love your baking and some of you have already had a go at this challenge before…so why not for VE Day.
How far you go is up to you…
You could make one VE cake or some cookies or you could go as far as to make a whole afternoon tea…using only ingredients available in 1945 of course! Some of these websites have some great recipes to try:
https://the1940sexperiment.com/100-wartime-recipes/
http://cookit.e2bn.org/historycookbook/index-20-world-war-2.html

Crack the code for victory

The phonetic alphabet was used by the RAF during the war. Can you learn how to spell your name using the code? What about Morse code? Can you come up with a secret message for your family (or teachers) to crack? What about coming up with your own unique code?
Find out about the phonetic alphabet here:
https://www.worldometers.info/languages/nato-phonetic-alphabet/

Going red, white and blue for victory

Now this challenge could be interpreted in so many ways. For example….
> Make red, white and blue decorations for your house.
> Decorate your food in these colours.
> Have a meal where the food is only red, white or blue!
> Wear these colours for a day.

Dressing up for victory

Have you still got your evacuee costume? Perhaps that will fit this task.
Can you spend the day or even just an hour in a 1940s style… it could be just a hairstyle. You could even go on your daily walk in costume!
Don't forget to get someone to take a picture of you!

Playing for victory

Can you think back to the Autumn Term when we taught you some of the games they played in the 1940s? Find a way to play one of them now. Do the people in your household actually know the rules to any of these well known games? Some of the games you could play are listed below:
> Marbles
> Go Fish
> Hop scotch
> Skipping
> Five stones (Jacks)

Dancing for victory

Can you remember any of the WW2 dances that we learnt? If not, relearn one! Can you put any of the moves to a modern song? Some of the dances included the following:
> Lindy Hop
> Jitterbug
> West Coast Swing
> Jive
> Charleston

Reading or watching for victory

There were so many fantastic books and films around in the 1940s that we must make sure they aren't forgotten. Watch a film or read a book from the 1940s or one that was popular at the time. You probably know more than think too…
> Pinocchio
> Bambi
> Dumbo
> Muffin the Mule
> *Stuart Little* by E.B. White
> *Five on Treasure Island* by Enid Blyton