Codebreaking during the D-Day Landings

History Lesson 2

What can you remember about D-Day from last week?

Make notes of what you can remember using a mindmap.

D-Day

Today, we are looking at codebreaking during the D-Day Landings.

Watch this video:
https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-codebreaking-in-world-war-two/zdq2jhv

You may want to take a few notes and add any important information to your mind-map.

During WW2, the British and the Germans needed to use complicated codes.

Every code needs a key. This is what helps you work out the code.

<u>Let's look at an example of a simple key.</u>

Here is our key:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

How to crack the code.

- Look at the key.
- Find the number.
- Look at the letter above the number.
- Write the letter in the box.

Try this:

6	9	18	5

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Answer

Check you got it right...

6	9	18	5
F	I	R	E

Now you have some real German messages that were intercepted to crack using this key. Complete the worksheet.

When you are done, imagine you are a soldier during D-Day trying to tell an officer what is going on. Create at least 3 of your own secret messages using the key. You may need to use what you learnt last week to help.

Challenge? Write your own secret messages using a key you have created. Then give them to someone else to decode.