

History Knowledge Organiser: Florence Nightingale and Edith Cavell

Year 2: Spring Term 2

Timeline

Florence Nightingale				Edith Cavell			
1851	1854	1855	1907	1888	1897	1914-1915	1915
Florence Nightingale trains to be at nurse at 31 years old.	Britain joins Crimea War and Florence travels to treat injured soldiers.	She receives the Gold and Diamond brooch from Queen Victoria.	Receives Order of Merit – first woman ever. Dies in 1910.	Edith Cavell visits a free hospital and becomes interested in nursing.	After training to be a nurse, she stops a typhoid epidemic in Maidstone.	Edith works in Brussels to treat wounded soldiers. She gives them money and helps them escape.	Edith Cavell is arrested and killed.

Key Vocabulary

Crimean War	Britain went to war with Russia, fighting in Crimea.
infection	illness caused by germs spreading
patient	an ill person treated in a hospital
Red Cross	an award given to Florence Nightingale by Queen Victoria
Lady of the Lamp	Florence's nickname – she walked at night with a lamp
impact	the difference made by doing something
injured	somebody who is hurt
Nurse	somebody who works in a hospital treating patients
wound	an injury where the skin is cut or broken
compassion	concern for the suffering or misfortunes of others
treason	The crime of betraying your country by helping the enemy

General Knowledge

In 1854, the Crimean War broke out – a war with Britain, France and Turkey on one side, and Russia on the other. British troops went off to fight in the Crimea – an area in the south of Russia, now part of Ukraine. News soon reached home of soldiers dying from battle wounds, cold, hunger and sickness, with no real medical care or nurses to treat them. Help was needed fast, and the Minister for War – called Sidney Herbert – knew just the person... He asked Florence to lead a team of nurses to the Crimea!

When they arrived, the nurses found the Army hospital in Scutari (the area where wounded soldiers were sent) in a terrible state. It was overcrowded and filthy, with blocked drains, broken toilets and rats running everywhere. Imagine the smell! There weren't enough medical supplies or equipment, and wounded soldiers had to sleep on the dirty floor, without blankets to keep warm, clean water to drink or fresh food to eat. Not surprisingly, disease spread quickly and most of the soldiers died from infection.

Florence Nightingale truly cared for her suffering patients. At night, when everyone was sleeping, she'd visit the soldiers to make sure they were comfortable. She'd also write letters home for those who could not write themselves. Since Florence carried a lantern with her on her night visits, the soldiers would call her 'The Lady with the Lamp'.

Famous Figures

Florence Nightingale travelled to the Crimean War to help treat injured soldiers. Florence was loved and adored by all of the soldiers. They called her 'The lady with the lamp' because she walked around the wards at night with a lantern. Florence spent the rest of her life trying to make hospitals a better place for everybody. Florence changed the world by making nursing an honourable profession and changing how sick people were cared for across Britain and the world.

Edith Cavell was born on the 4th December 1865 in Norfolk, England. She trained as a nurse in 1896. In 1907, she was asked to be in charge of a nursing training school in Brussels, Belgium. During WW1, Edith nursed and saved soldiers from both sides of the war. She also hid over 200 allied soldiers from the Germans. She gave them money and let them escape from Germans through tunnels in her hospital. She was arrested for treason and sentenced to death.