

## Caroline Haslett Primary School – History

**Topic: Local History**

**Year 4**

**A local history study**

### Knowledge

#### Who was Alan Turing?

Alan Turing was a scientist, a mathematician and a **codebreaker**. Alan was so clever that he could use science and maths to work out how to crack difficult codes. Alan was born on 23rd June 1912 in London. His dad was called Julius and his mum was called Ethel. Alan's parents spent a lot of time travelling between England and India because Alan's dad worked there. This meant that Alan and his older brother, John, spent a lot of time staying with friends of their family.

#### What did he do?

Alan started to work at **Bletchley Park** when he was 27 years old. **Bletchley Park** was a large house where lots of **codebreakers** worked during the **Second World War**. During the war, the German army would send lots of messages to each other that were written in code. They did this by replacing one letter with another letter multiple times. It was Alan's job to work out what the messages really said. At first, Alan was using a codebreaking machine called the **Enigma**. However, Alan quickly made a new machine that was much better. Alan's new machine played a big part in ending the Second World War. Alan was given a special award for his hard work by **King George VI** in 1946.

### Vocabulary

- **Bletchley** – an old town originating in the 12th century where Watling Street (roman road) runs through
- **Bletchley Park** – a large house in Bletchley where lots of codebreakers worked in secret during the Second World War
- **Codebreaker** – a person who solves codes
- **Enigma** - a cipher device developed during the Second World War
- **King George VI** – King of the United Kingdom from 1936 until his death in 1952
- **Milton Keynes** – the largest town in Buckinghamshire that originated in the 1960's
- **Morse Code** – a method used in telecommunication to encode text characters as standardised sequences of two different signal durations, called dots and dashes
- **Second World War** – a global war that lasted from 1939 to 1945

### Useful Images

