Coley Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

SUBJECT FOCUS:	History – Significant People - Nurses	YEAR 2	TERM 5

Key Events and Facts

Mary Seacole

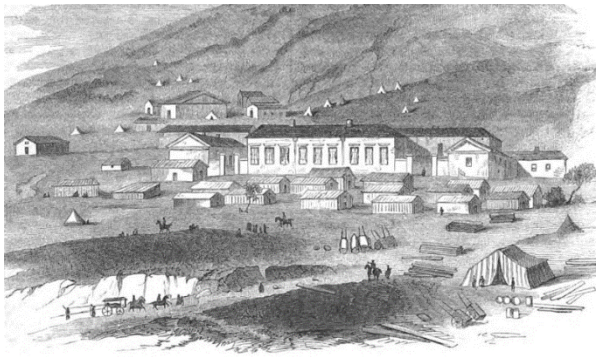


Mary Seacole was born in **Jamaica** in 1805. Her mother was Jamaican and her father was a Scottish man in the British Army.

Her mother was a **nurse** and Mary learnt **nursing skills** to help her heal people at a house called **Blundell Hall**.

Mary Seacole wanted to join the nurses treating the soldiers injured in the **Crimean War**, but the British Government refused her because she had black skin.

She went anyway and set up the '**British Hotel' hospital** two miles from the fighting battlefields at Balaklava, near the Black Sea.



British Military Hospital, Balaklava.

She helped soldiers through nutrition, human kindness and treatment. She would also travel to the **front line**, taking supplies and healing soldiers from both sides.

She became known as Mother Seacole due to her services. When the war finished, she was awarded a medal for bravery and in 2016, a statute of her was built in London. She died in Britain in 1881.

Florence Nightingale



Florence Nightingale was a British nurse born in 1820 in **Florence**, Italy.

She was the daughter of an **upper-class** couple. She longed to be a **nurse**, but her father would not allow it as it was not a job that a lady would have. Eventually, she became a **nurse** in 1853.

Florence Nightingale is remembered for changing the way hospitals were managed. She treated soldiers at the Scutari Hospital during the Crimean War.

Hospitals were very dirty and smelly places with many men dying because:

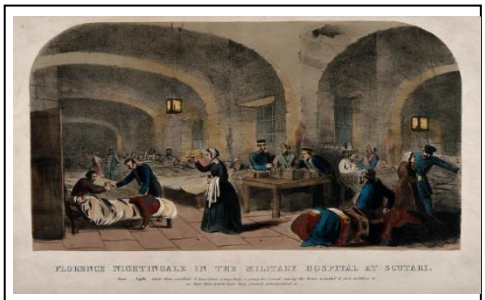
- There weren't enough beds for the patients
- Medicine was in short supply.
- The food was of poor quality.

With the help of her nurses, Florence made **improvements** to hospitals:

- The nurses cleaned the hospital frequently.
- They washed their hands regularly to stop the spread of germs and **infection**.
- The patients ate better food.

These changes, many still practiced in hospitals today, saved many lives and proved that nursing was a very important job.

She was known as '**The Lady with the Lamp**' because she walked around the **wards** at night with her **lantern.**



One of the wards in the hospital at Scutari

Edith Cavell



Edith Cavell was born on 4th December 1865 in England. She trained as a nurse and in 1907, she was asked to be in charge of a nursing training school in Brussels, Belgium.

Edith Cavell is remembered for nursing and saving soldiers from both sides of the war during **World War One.**

She also actively helped over 200 **allied** soldiers escape from German soldiers who were looking to capture and imprison them. She was arrested, found guilty of **treason** and sentenced to death.

She was killed by a German firing squad on 12th October 1915.

Most people now believe Edith was a hero because she gave up her life to help British, French and Belgian soldiers escape from the Germans. She also helped many more soldiers recover from illness and injury.

Key Vocabulary			
Jamaica	A country in the Caribbean	**Florence**	A city in Italy.
nurse	a person trained to care for the sick, especially in a hospital	**upper-class**	The social group that has the highest status in society.
Blundell Hall	A lodging house run by Mary's mother.	**front line**	The military line or part of an army that is closest to the enemy.
nursing skills	Learning how to care for the sick or injured or infirm	**The Lady with the Lamp**	The name Florence Nightingale was known as because she would visit soldiers at night with a small lantern in her hand.
Crimean War	A conflict in Crimea between Russia and a group of nations including England	**World War One.**	Also known as the Great War, was a global war that lasted from 1914 to 1918
lantern	A lamp with a transparent case to protect the flame with a handle to be carried or hung.	**allied soldiers**	Are armies from different countries who are fighting on the same side in a war.

Diagrams and Symbols



Mary Seacole nursed soldiers at Balaklava



Florence Nightingale
The Lady with the Lamp

A group photograph in Brussels showing Nurse Edith Cavell (seated centre)



Possible Experiences:

- Mary Seacole https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zns9nrd/articles/zjsxcqt
- Florence Nightingale https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zj274xs
- Edit Cavell - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zqhyb9q/articles/z92m2nb
- Visit by a nurse from hospital and/or Visit to Hospital's museum and/or Florence Nightingale Museum if possible.
- Build a field hospital in school.