# 13<sup>th</sup> August 1910, Florence Nightingale, 90, dies.

- Florence Nightingale was born on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1820, and named after the Italian city of her birth.
- Her wealthy parents were in Florence at the time as part of a tour of Europe.



# Searching for a calling.

- In 1837, Nightingale felt that God was calling her to do some work but wasn't sure what that work should be.
- She began to develop an interest in nursing, but her parents considered it to be a profession inappropriate to a woman of her class and background, and would not allow her to train as a nurse.
- Florence Nightingale stained glass window, originally at the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary Chapel and now removed to St Peter's Church, Derby and rededicated 9 October 2010.



#### Conventional parents.

- They expected her to make a good marriage and live a conventional upper class woman's life.
- Nightingale's parents eventually relented and in 1851, she went to Kaiserwerth in Germany for three months nursing training.



## Her start in St Thomas's Hospital Harley Street.

- This enabled her to become superintendent of a hospital for gentlewomen in Harley Street, in 1853.
- The following year, the Crimean War began and soon reports in the newspapers were describing the desperate lack of proper medical facilities for wounded British soldiers at the front.
- This marker is inscribed on a building that stands on the north east side of Harley Street at the junction with Weymouth Street



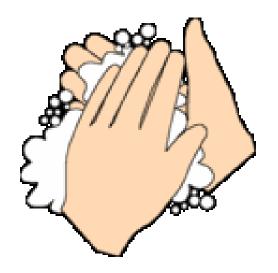
### Travels to Turkey.

- Sidney Herbert, the war minister, already knew Nightingale, and asked her to oversee a team of nurses in the military hospitals in Turkey.
- In 1854 she led an expedition of 38 women to take over the management of the barrack hospital at Scutari where she observed the disastrous sanitary conditions.
- An 1856 lithograph of the Selimiye barracks (Scutari barracks) used as a hospital during the Crimean War (October 1853 – February 1856).



### Uncertainty of achievements.

- Reports vary as to what Nightingale achieved but it is fairly well established the she instituted the hygienic practice of washing hands.
- In response to a call from Nightingale, A Sanitary Commission was sent out by the British government to Scutari in March 1855, almost six months after Florence Nightingale had arrived.



## "The lady with the lamp"

- The commission flushed out the sewers and improved ventilation.
- Death rates were sharply reduced, but Nightingale never claimed credit for helping to reduce the death rate.
- Most famous image.



#### Lasting contribution.

- She returned to England in 1856.
- In 1860, she established the Nightingale Training School for nurses at St Thomas' Hospital in London.



### Widespread influence.

• Once the nurses were trained, they were sent to hospitals all over Britain, where they introduced the ideas they had learned, and established nursing training on the Nightingale model.



### A significant contribution.

 Nightingale's theories, published in 'Notes on Nursing' (1860), were very influential and her concerns for sanitation, military health and hospital planning established practices which are still in existence today.

• Statue of Florence Nightingale in Waterloo Place, London.

