***The 1905 Revolution***

***Causes of -***

Japan defeats Russia, causing economic problems. Tsar hopes of easy victory not met.

The unhappiness of both peasants and landowners continues

**Bloody Sunday** – protesters led by Father Gapon are shot at when a peaceful march was organised of 200,000 on Winter Palace. (main trigger of revolution)

***Key events*** –

There are strikes and revolts which reached their peak between December 1904 and January 1905, There is mutiny on Potemkin, and Soviets are set up

The Tsar survives, and sets up the October Manifesto The Tsar’s uncle is assassinated

In September the Tsar signs a peace treaty with Japan

. Tsar agrees to the creation of a new Parliament ( Duma) However, the workers still were not helped as it had little power to make changes and the revolution continued

the Tsar uses troops returning for war to end demonstrations.

October Manifesto gives middle class basic political rights but did not give into demands for greater democracy and the Tsar could even dissolve the Duma when he wished. Free speech was guaranteed but censorship of newspapers continued.

Peter Stolypin was appointed as Prime Minister and became known for his brutal punishment of Revolutionaries ( Stolypin’s necktie’) but he did introduce reforms that perhaps helped peasants and attempted to improve the lives of the urban working class.

***The Great War***

Peasants and workers have to fight, so factories close and there are food shortages

Nicholas takes personal control of the army, and leaves Alexandra in charge

The Tsar is blamed for the badly trained army, and the rouble losing value

Russia backs out of the war, and much land is lost to Germany

confidence in Tsar decreases further due to his dealings with Rasputin and as Tsarina was German it was believed she was a spy. Also, food and fuel shortages meant his support decreased further.

Revision points for National 4 and 5 –Russia

***Imperial Russia (an autocracy ruled by the Tsars) -Difficulties –*size** (communication) – **environmen**t (unsuitability of some land). **Different nationalities**- over 130 million people but less than half ethnically Class **Divisions** -Russian. **Peasants** 85% population – poor, uneducated. **Backward** – little technology in agriculture. **Poor industrial workers –** enduring terrible conditions. Growth of heavy industry but wages remained poor and accidents were common**. Middle class**- often supported Tsar and growing class.

***The Tsarist state- Romanov Empire –***Nicholas II 1894-1917- **Difficulties in opposing the Tsar**

* **Church** – controlled the people and Priests taught the people the tsar was the ‘Little Father’ of all the Russians given to them by God and must be obeyed.
* **Okhrana**(Secret Police) – suspected dissidents could face torture.
* **Army –** also loyal to Tsar and could use force to put down opposition.
* **Cossacks –**linked with the army important and loyal supporters of the Tsar. They would act against other people in the Empire, including Russians, they formed the best cavalry units in the Russian army and were aggressive, brutal and ruthless in their actions**!**
* **Russification –** this forced the use of Russian language, the Polish to become Russian citizens,Catholic, Polish and Asiatic Muslims forced to convert to Russian orthodoxy.Jews persecuted for being anti- Russian.Russian was used in schools and courts (despite being only 44% of the population)