

# Curriculum Newsletter

Year 4 / Spring 1



Welcome back to another busy and exciting half term in Year 4. We hope you all had a healthy and restful holiday. The children have settled into the Year 4 routines really well and we are proud of how they have done and all they have achieved. They are already making good progress in the year 4 curriculum and shown great enthusiasm with our history topic of the Romans. We can really see the impact times table practice is having on the children's multiplication fluency.

*A photo from our recent Roman Catapult DT project day.*



## Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be given each Friday. This will be one piece of work linked to the week's learning in either maths or writing. We expect children to be reading and completing maths activities at home at least four times per week. The children will receive rewards for doing this so please ensure you remember to record any maths or reading activities you do at home in your reading diaries.

Times tables continue to be a BIG focus for year 4! Daily times table practice is encouraged to ensure children develop speed and fluency in all their times tables. Children can log into [ttrockstars.com](https://www.ttrockstars.com) for a fun way to do this.

## Key vocabulary

<b>circuit</b>	A pathway that electricity can flow around.
<b>cell</b>	Normally, we would call this a battery but scientifically, this is a cell. Two or more cells joined together form a battery.
<b>electricity</b>	The flow of an electric current through a material.
<b>conductor</b>	A material that will allow electricity to flow through it.
<b>insulator</b>	A material that does not allow electricity to flow through it.
<b>series (circuit)</b>	A circuit where the components are connected in a loop,
<b>society</b>	All the groups of people that share the same laws, rights, and resources and live under the same flag.
<b>culture</b>	Culture is a pattern of behaviour shared by a society, or group of people.
<b>identity</b>	Your identity is 'who you are'.
<b>sequence</b>	a set of related events, movements or items that follow each other in a "particular order"

## Topic: Electrifying

This curriculum newsletter provides an overview of your child's learning this half-term. This term our writing will be influenced by our class text 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes.



### Science

As scientists we will learn how to make a complete series circuit. We will explore which materials make the most effective insulators and conductors. We will also learn the effect of a switch in a circuit.

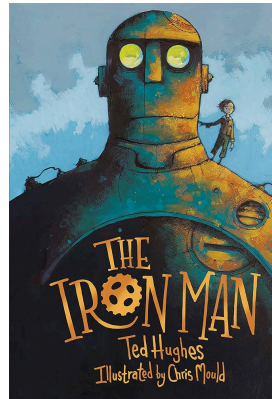
### Computing

As computer scientists we will be using programming to create repetitive patterns including 2D shapes.

As part of PSHE, we will also be learning about being safe online and about online relationships.

### English

As writers we will train as journalists to write a newspaper report about the Iron Man eating all the machinery. In this piece we will revise using direct speech accurately, and developing this skill to begin writing reported speech. We will write an introduction that answers the 5 Ws (who, what, where, when and why?). We will begin to write in a formal manner and organise our ideas in chronological order. We will develop our reasoning and debating skills about whether the farmers should punish or help the Iron Man.



As readers we will be refining our reading skills using the text 'The Firework Maker's Daughter.' We will continue to use our VIPERS (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval and Summarise) skills to decipher and deepen our understanding of a wide range of texts.

### PE

As athletes we will learn about how to keep fit and healthy through exercise and a balanced diet. We will also develop a gymnastic sequence with partners and independently.

### Art

As artists and designers we will express ourselves through the medium of chalk and oil pastels based on the art work of our key text. We will also create our own 'Iron Man' robots using electrical circuits and scrap materials.

### RHE

To understand ourselves and others we will: explore people's similarities and differences including personal identity.

We will also be continuing with the 'My Happy Mind' programme where we will be identifying and celebrating our own character strengths.

### Geography

As geographers we will be learning about the states in North America and will be looking more closely at the reason for tourism in 'The Magic Kingdom.'

Maths	Music	RE
<p>As mathematicians we will be exploring the patterns, concept patterns and relationships times tables. We will also be learning to identify factors and multiples. In order to deepen our knowledge and understanding we will apply it to multi-step word problems. We will be continuing to practise our times tables daily in preparation for our year 4 multiplication check in Summer 2024.</p> <p>In addition to this we will also learn mathematical rules for multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100 including decimal numbers.</p>	<p>As musicians we will be beginning to learn how to play the Duda with weekly lessons led by Norfolk Music Hub.</p> <p>We will also continue to attend our weekly KS2 singing assemblies.</p>	<p>As theologians we will answer the question 'How do religious groups contribute to society and culture?' based on our knowledge of Christianity, Hinduism and Islam.</p>
	<b>Languages</b>	
	<p>As linguists we will learn French vocabulary based on the topic 'Around the World'.</p>	