

# 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. 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 [trockstars.com](http://trockstars.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.

## Key Dates

Tuesday 7th January - School reopens to pupils

Thursday 6th February 3pm - Workshare for parents

Friday 7th February - Safer Internet curriculum day

Friday 14th February - Last day of half term

## 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.

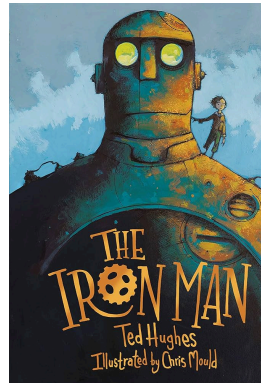
### Computing

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 and the effect he has had on the local village. 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 through weekly comprehension texts. We will develop our ability with vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising skills.

### 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.

### DT

As designers we will be designing and making our own simple electrical circuits using switches and LEDs linked with our Iron Man English work and linked with our electricity learning in science.

### RHE

We will be appreciating similarities and differences between us, including our families and what makes them unique.

We will recognise that our mind is the control centre for our emotions. We will identify feelings in a range of scenarios and understand the physical response in the body. We will also identify the four zones of regulation and discuss strategies on how to manage these emotions.

### Geography

Towards the end of the half term, we will be beginning a new geography unit learning about North and South America. We will be using map reading skills to locate various countries as well as comparing the similarities and differences between North and South America.

Maths	Music	Languages
<p>As mathematicians we will be learning to identify factors and multiples, as well as learning the mathematical rules for multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. Additionally, we will be learning formal written methods for multiplication and division.</p> <p>Towards the end of this half term, we will be looking at length (converting between metres and kilometers) and perimeter (finding the perimeter of a variety of regular and irregular shapes).</p> <p>We will be continuing to practise our times tables daily in preparation for our year 4 multiplication check in Summer 2025.</p>	<p>As musicians, we will follow the Charanga scheme of learning, listening to and learning the song Mamma Mia by Abba.</p> <p>We will also be learning about musical structures and will be exploring the question, 'How does music bring us together?'</p>	<p>As linguists we will learn French vocabulary based on colours and describing our own appearance and the appearance of others.</p>