

# Year 4 Newsletter

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## Our topic in Term 2 is 'The Romans'

**Topic Work:** This term, we will be looking at the entertainment and culture of The Roman Empire and the impact that the Romans had in history.

**English:** Our main text this term is History Hackers, linking to our topic of The Romans. Within our English lessons, the children will be learning a range of different Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar skills to apply within their writing.

**Maths:** This term, we will be focussing on area and multiplication and division. We will be focussing on different methods to solve multiplication and division calculations.

**Science:** This term, our topic is electricity focussing on the importance of electricity and why we need it for everyday life. We will be taking part in experiments to practise our scientific skills.

**PSHE / RE:** This term, we will be focussing on the people of God and what roles they played within Christianity. Within PSHE we will be looking at the importance of leadership and organisational skills as well as anti-bullying.

**Art:** We will be creating traditional Roman mosaics looking at Sue Kershaw for our inspiration.



## PE

This term, we will be working on Football and Roman themed Dance. **Please ensure your child comes into school wearing their PE kit every Thursday.**



Even in the cold weather we will still try to go outside each week so please provide a black/grey tracksuit.

## How can you help at home?

Please take time to enjoy a story with your child whether they or you are reading. Also, please complete the weekly homework and spelling practise to support for the weekly tests.



## Times Table and Division Facts

Times tables and division facts are key areas for building confidence in maths. As a result, by the end of Year 4 all children are expected to know their times tables. Therefore, we will be having daily times tables practise. Please support your child with learning their times tables up to the 12s and encourage your child to identify the relationships between them. Thank you for your continued support.

## Water Bottles

Please could you ensure that your child brings a named water bottle to school each day, to have in the classroom. **This should contain water only, no juice or squash please.**



**Children should come to school everyday wearing the correct uniform, including shoes. Please discuss with us if your child is not wearing the correct uniform or shoes.**

## Notable dates for this term:

Anti-bullying week and odd socks week –13th to 17th November

Children in Need 17th November—Spotacular

## Reading

The children engage in many reading activities as part of their English sessions. Through the AR scheme, your child will have a band of books that they may choose from, which should all be suitable for their current reading ability. Your child needs to be secure with what they have read, so they may be encouraged to read their book more than once before completing the quiz. It is important that your child reads daily, we offer reading time in school throughout the day but this needs to be supported at home too. If you have any queries about the system, please contact your child's class teacher.

**Please ensure that your child brings their reading book to school everyday and you have signed their reading record to say that you have listened to them read. Thank you.**



# Mosaics

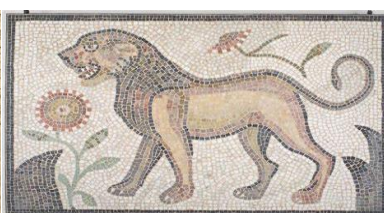


Artist for inspiration - Sue Kershaw

She travelled to Italy in 1992 and fell in love with the Roman style art work, she saw at historical sites.



Roman mosaics were used to decorate floors and walls and the more detailed the design, the wealthier you were seen to be by others.



## Subject specific vocabulary

Mosaic	A decoration on a surface made by arranging small pieces of glass, stone or tile of different colours.
Tesserae	Tiny coloured stones.
Mortar	The cement used to stick the gems and stones together to create the mosaic.
Geometric	Using lines and simple shapes such as triangles, squares and rectangles.
Border	A margin that frames the picture and defines its edges.
Adhesive	The substance that sticks tesserae to the backing.
Backing	The base for a mosaic. This is what the tesserae are stuck to.
PVA glue	White water-based craft glue.

What I should already know:	What I will know at the end of the topic:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who the Romans were and when they lived</li> <li>How to shape and shade using a variety of colours</li> <li>To practise a skill repeatedly</li> <li>To plan and design a piece of work</li> <li>How to tear/ cut paper</li> <li>How to use glue to stick paper together without loose sections</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why the Romans used a lot of mosaics in their artwork and how they were made</li> <li>Select colours and collage materials to create effect</li> <li>Refine work to ensure precision</li> <li>Practise a range of techniques such as overlapping and mosaic</li> <li>Can use key vocabulary and demonstrate knowledge and understanding</li> </ul>





# Term 2 – People of God

What is it like to follow God?



## What should I already know and be able to do?

- The Old Testament tells the story of a particular group of people- the children of Israel.
- The People of God worship God and that Old Testament tells stories of his commands.
- Make clear links between Noah and the idea of covenant.
- Make links between the promises in the story of Noah and promises that are made during a wedding ceremony.
- Make links between the story of Noah and how we behave in school and the community.

## What will I know and be able to do by the end of this topic?

- The Old Testament tells the story of a particular group of people- the children of Israel- known as the People of God.
- People of God try to live in the way God wants by following his commands.
- That the People of God believe that he promises to stay with them and that the Bible shows how God keeps his promises.
- Develop skills of reading and interpretation of the Old Testament.
- Understand how Christians interpret, handle and use biblical texts.
- Make sense of means of texts for Christians.



## Key words:

Genesis- The origin or mode of formation of something.

Old Testament – The Old Testament is the first division of the Christian biblical canon, which is based primarily upon 24 books.

Biblical- Related to or contained in a bible.

Dominated- Having power and influence.

Obedience- Compliance with an order, request, law or submission to another's authority.















Promises- A declaration or assurance one will do something or that a particular thing will happen.

Community- A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common.


Church – A building used for public Christian worship.

Faith – Complete trust or confidence in someone or something

# ELECTRICITY

Key Vocabulary		Components (Parts) Vocabulary		
<b>electricity</b>	The flow of an electric current through a material, e.g. from a power source through wires to an <b>appliance</b> .	<b>cell:</b> Normally, we would call this a <b>battery</b> but scientifically, this is a cell. Two or more cells joined together form a <b>battery</b> .	<b>bulb:</b> Lights up in a complete <b>circuit</b> .	<b>buzzer:</b> Makes a noise in a complete <b>circuit</b> .
<b>appliances</b>	A piece of equipment or a device designed to perform a particular job, such as a washing machine or mobile phone.			
<b>battery</b>	A device that stores electrical energy as a chemical. Two or more cells joined together form a <b>battery</b> .	<b>wires:</b> Used to connect the different components in the <b>circuit</b> together. 	<b>motor:</b> Produces movement in a complete <b>circuit</b> .	<b>switch:</b> Used to turn other components in the <b>circuit</b> on or off.
<b>circuit</b>	A pathway that <b>electricity</b> can flow around. It is based around wires and a power supply. Examples of components (parts) you can add in to a <b>circuit</b> are bulbs, switches, buzzers and motors.			
<b>Series Circuit</b> A <b>circuit</b> where the components are connected in a loop. <b>Electricity</b> flows through each component in a single pathway. 		<b>Complete Circuit</b>  <b>Electricity</b> can flow. The components will work.		<b>Incomplete Circuit</b> There is a break in the <b>circuit</b> that prevents the <b>electricity</b> from flowing. The components will not work. 
Switches can be used to open or close a <b>circuit</b> . When off, a switch 'breaks' the <b>circuit</b> to stop the flow of <b>electricity</b> . When on, a switch 'completes' the <b>circuit</b> and allows the <b>electricity</b> to flow.  push button switch  slide switch		<b>Materials can be tested in a <b>circuit</b> to see if they are <b>electrical conductors</b> or <b>electrical insulators</b>.</b>		
 10p = metal = <b>electrical conductors</b>		 test <b>circuit</b>		 ruler = plastic = <b>electrical insulators</b>
		<b>Key Vocabulary</b>		
		<b>mains electricity</b>	<b>Electricity</b> supplied through wires to a building.	
		<b>electrical conductor</b>	A <b>conductor</b> of <b>electricity</b> is a material that will allow <b>electricity</b> to flow through it.	
		<b>electrical insulator</b>	Materials that are <b>electrical insulators</b> do not allow <b>electricity</b> to flow through them.	


**Electrical Safety**



Electricity can be extremely dangerous if it is not used safely. It can cause burns, shocks, serious injury and in extreme cases, death.

Some important Electrical safety tips

- Do not put fingers or other objects in a plug
- Never use anything with a cord or a plug around water
- Stay away from power stations and power lines
- Never place drinks near electrical items
- Do not overload a plug socket or extension cord
- Do not use an electrical item if the cord/ wire is broken
- Do not put batteries in your mouth or swallow them



What I will know by the end of the topic:

- How to identify common appliances that run on electricity.
- How to construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers.
- How to identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery.
- How to recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit.
- How to recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.

What should I already know?

Electricity is a source of power/ energy that allows something to heat up, light up, move or produce sound. Electrical power can come from plugging something in or using a battery. Electricity can be dangerous. Electrical appliances have switches to turn them on and off.