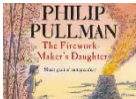


ENGLISH  Our 'Cracking Contraptions' topic will focus on non-fiction texts, in particular explanation texts, building on the children's knowledge of instructions from previous years. We will look at the features of these types of texts and focus on specific grammar and punctuation skills such as subordinating conjunctions.  We will then shift our focus to 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman when we being our 'Extreme Earth' topic – an epic adventure story based in another culture with a focus on Volcanoes. This is an excellent story for developing narrative skills, description and written dialogue whilst fostering their creativity. Throughout the term we will also improve our comprehension skills through guided reading activities too using our English texts.	Year 4 Autumn Term 2026 Cracking Contraptions & Extreme Earth		COMPUTING In Computing we will be using Purple Mash to teach. Online safety will be taught through 2BeSafe, beginning with Self-Image and Identity. his term, Year 4 will advance their programming skills using Purple Mash's 2Code tool. Children will learn to write more complex code by exploring selection (IF/ELSE statements), variables, and efficient timers. They will develop critical problem-solving skills, culminating in the exciting challenge of designing and coding their own playable computer game.
MATHEMATICS This term in Mathematics we will be reinforcing our understanding of place value (1s, 10s, 100s, 1000s). We will be exploring mental strategies to add and subtract near multiples of ten and mentally adding several numbers. A short unit on calculating the area of rectilinear shapes will be followed by a revision of the 3,6- and 9-times tables to then learn the rest up to 12 x 12, whilst also continuing with our Number Sense programme.	PHYSICAL EDUCATION We are focusing on developing and improving our netball and rugby skills. Both topics start with a focus on ball-handling, passing and receiving before moving onto teamwork skills and tactics. The children will also be developing their balancing skills in gymnastics in produce a short sequence on the apparatus and will also begin to learn how to play lacrosse.	SCIENCE 'Cracking Contraptions' is a science focused topic, where we introduce the children to electricity. We begin by looking at appliances that use electricity, the components needed to make a simple working circuit and switched. We discuss materials which can be conductors and insulators and work scientifically to plan and conduct an experiment. Our next topic, 'Extreme Earth' allows us to think about the water cycle, changing environments for living things and their habitats as well as food chains.	
HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY This topic focuses on physical geography such as mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes. We start this wide-ranging topic using our locational knowledge to discover mountain ranges around the world. We then learn about the Earth's tectonic plates, what lies below them and how this is connected to the formation of both mountains and volcanoes. As well as this, we learn how avalanches are caused and how climate change is affecting mountains. During this topic, we will focus on the Alps as a European Settlement.	RELIGIOUS EDUCATION The first half term gives us a deeper look into Sikhism. We take a deeper look into the key beliefs of Sikhs, their values and their community life. In the second half term, we explore the question 'What did God promise to his people?'. We spend time looking at the Old Testament and New Testament and the covenants that God made with others.	ART This term we will look at the colourful mixed media art work of Nick Rowland. We will use a range of different techniques to create our own erupting volcanoes including: Splattering, blowing with a straw, flicking and dripping paint.	
	PSHE Our PSHE curriculum follows Jigsaw, a mindful, sequential journey that helps students grow personally, socially, and emotionally. We start with unit 1 'Being Me in My World' exploring the big question: "Who am I and how do I fit?" Unit 2 'Celebrating Difference' then shifts the focus outward to empathy and inclusion. Students learn the importance of anti-bullying, appreciating what makes us unique.	MUSIC In Music, we are learning to sing 'Mamma Mia' by Abba. We will also use a range of different instruments to play along to this song, with a focus on composition and performance. We will then move our focus onto learning keyboard skills, composing and playing simple melodies.	
	DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY We combine our new knowledge of electricity and circuits to make a game for younger children using simple circuits, with a focus on designing, making and evaluating.	FRENCH This term in French, we will be revising some of the key French phonetic sounds to help children improve their oral rehearsal. We will then move on to look at 'What is the weather?' alongside written and speaking practice.	

