

St. Laurence Catholic Primary Year 5 and 6 Curriculum Letter Spring Term 2026

Class Teachers—Mrs Khan-Blacker, Mrs Prokop, Miss Corcoran

Support Staff: Mrs Riches, Mrs Ambikapathy, Mrs Duarte, Mrs Buckley (Y5 Maths and English teacher) & Mrs Gillan (PPA)

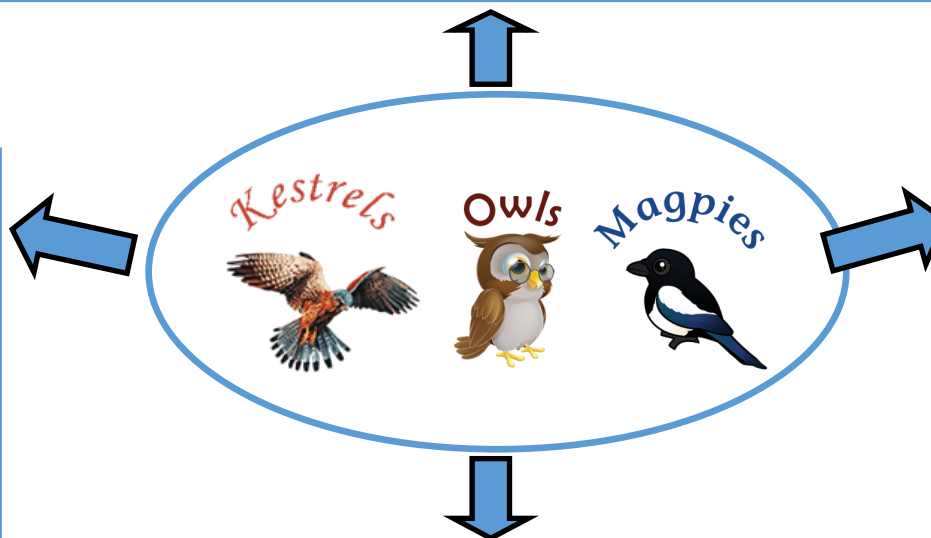


Through God's grace, a community growing in knowledge and understanding

RE: This term in Year 5/6 R.E. are covering the following topic areas:

Branch 3 Galilee to Jerusalem: Pupils will explore the Gospel of St. John, focusing on the seven miraculous signs.

Branch 4 Desert to garden: Pupils will explore the powerful symbolism in St. John's account of the final days of Jesus' earthly life. The children will also participate in class and whole school prayers, meditation, liturgies, hymn practice and school masses.



Y5 English

This term the children will cover the following genres in their writing:

- Third person stories set in another culture
- Formal letters of application
- Playscripts (Shakespeare analysing)
- Biography
- Poems which explore form.

Y6 English

In writing, the children will be working on:

- Extended third person narrative (adventure stories)
- Explanatory texts
- Autobiography
- Lead piece: Extended third person narrative (adventure stories)

In each unit of work, pupils will have access to a knowledge organiser, model text and understand the ingredients needed for success.

Y5 Maths

This term the children will be covering the following topics:

- Multiplication and division
- Fractions
- Decimals and percentages
- Measure - perimeter and area
- Graphs and tables

Y6 Maths

This term the children will be covering the following topics:

- Mixed questions (add, subtract, multiply, divide) with fractions
- Fraction of an amount – find the whole
- Ratio and proportion
- Algebra
- Decimals
- Percentages
- Measure – perimeter, area and volume

Children will focus on each area of maths for an extended number of lessons allowing them to deepen their understanding.

Our School calculation policy provides further

PE— Dance, Gymnastics and Fitness.

Music— Children will work on a range of musical skills including improvisation, composition and performance through exploring a broad range of musical instruments and singing techniques developed within a range of activities.

Computing—The Children will learn about Programming using microBits.

PSHE – The children will be learning about their Personal Relationships, Life Online and Keeping Safe. There will also be lessons on keeping safe, which includes a first aid session. Also in conjunction with the NSPCC, they will also look at recognising abuse, such as grooming.

French - Unit 3 In my French house and Unit 4 Planning my French holiday.



designer

a person who plans the look of something before it is made: can include how a room should be furnished and decorated (interior design)

decorative arts

the arts concerned with the production of objects which are both useful and beautiful: includes interior design but not usually architecture (designing buildings) as this is different to the "fine arts" which are usually viewed as painting, drawing, sculpture and photography

Arts and Crafts movement

a trend in decorative and fine arts which began in Britain in about 1880: designers, craftsmen, artists and architects placed value on how things were made, using traditional craftsmanship, in small workshops (this was a reaction against mass industrialization in factories of the Victorian period)

stylized

to design something according to a particular style, rather than in accordance with nature or reality

medieval

the period in European history from about 600 C.E. to 1500 C.E. (also known as the middle ages or dark ages): William Morris, the Pre-Raphaelites and the Arts and Crafts movement were interested in the designs and art from this time

textiles

a cloth or fabric produced by, e.g., weaving or knitting

woodblock printing

a print made from a design cut in a block of wood, and then printed onto paper or fabric

block printing

to print from a hand-cut wooden block: multiple separate blocks can be used to print onto the same design (this is how Morris' wallpaper designs were printed)

reduction printing

a multicoloured print where the separate colours are printed from the same block, which is reduced each time the block is used to print

printing press

a machine that can print books, newspapers or magazines: Morris started his own press company in Hammersmith, called the Kelmscott Press

"Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful"



William Morris



pink and rose wallpaper (1890)



honeysuckle furnishing fabric (1876)

Spring 1 (before half term)



Victorian

classical architecture

neoclassical

gothic architecture

gothic revival

medieval

Pre-Raphaelites

realism

watercolour

wet-on-wet

wet-on-dry

the period of history during the **time of the reign of Queen Victoria**

the style of architecture in **ancient Greek or Roman times**

the style of architecture that got its **inspiration from classical architecture**

the style of **architecture in medieval times**

an architectural style that got its **inspiration from medieval (gothic) architecture**

the **period in European history from about 600 C.E. to 1500 C.E.** (also known as the Middle Ages or Dark Ages)

a secret society of young artists founded in London in 1848: they were **against the promotion of paintings that showed ideal human forms and settings**, as shown in the work of Raphael

when used in relation to Pre-Raphaelite paintings this means when **an artist makes something look realistic**, like in a photograph

paint thinned with water, giving a transparent colour

where layers of paint are painted on top of previous layers of paint which are still wet

where layers of paint are **Painted on top of previous layers of paint which are dry**

Rossetti



The Annunciation
(1849-50)

the Houses of
Parliament
(1840-1876)

London



Ophelia
(1851-1852)

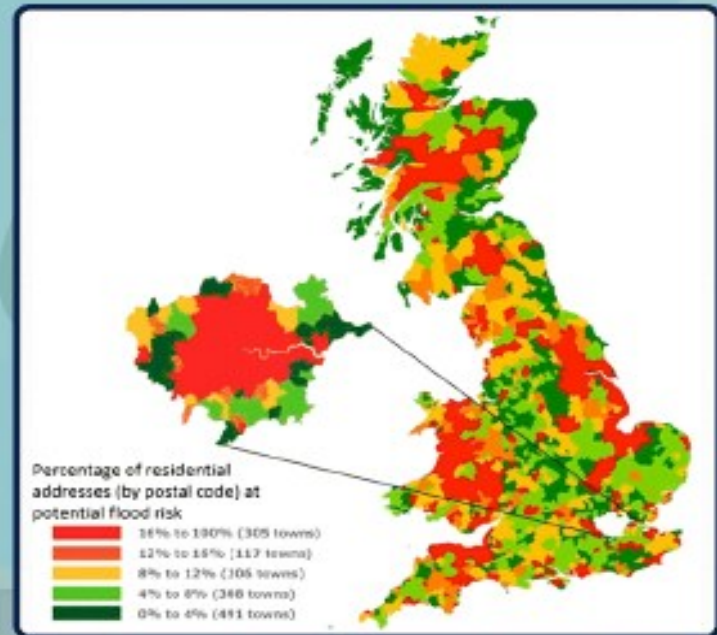
Milais



Spring 2 (After half term)

waste generated in the UK
million tonnes, 2016

- commercial
- household
- construction
- other



KEY VOCABULARY

air pollution

a **mixture** of synthetic (made by people) and natural substances in the air

climate change

a change in climate patterns in a region caused by **increased levels of carbon dioxide** in the atmosphere

waste

materials that are **unwanted, or unusable and are disposed of**

litter

waste left in open, public spaces

synthetic

made by people, **not a naturally occurring substance**

particles

a very **tiny portion of matter**, often smaller than our eyes can see

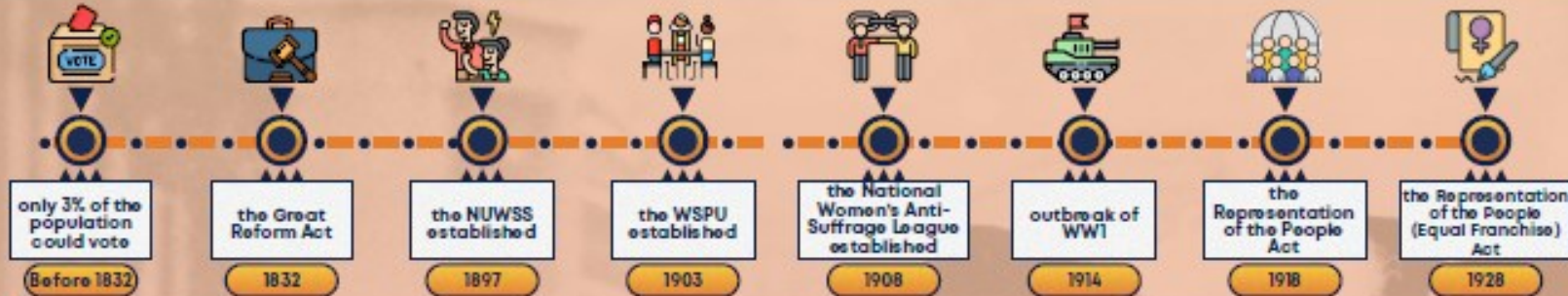
DEFRA

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (UK government department)

WHO

World Health Organisation (global organisation)





VOCABULARY

suffrage

the **right to vote**

electorate

the **people who can vote** in an election

democracy

a system of government where those in power are **voted for by the people**: the word 'democracy' comes from two Greek words which mean 'rule by the people'

campaign

where a group of people carry out actions to try and **influence decisions made by the government** and make a change

petition

a **formal written request**, usually signed by lots of people, asking the government or another important group to do something

anti-suffragism

people who believed that women **should not be allowed to vote**

hunger strike

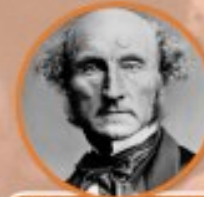
when people **refuse to eat** as a form of protest

suffragist

a member of the National Union for Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) who **campaign peacefully for women's suffrage**

suffragette

a member of the Women's Social and Political Union: a more radical group which **sometimes used violence and broke the law**



John Stuart Mill

argued that some women should be given the vote as part of the Great Reform Act 1832



Millicent Fawcett

leader of the National Union for Women's Suffrage Societies



Emmeline Pankhurst

leader of the Women's Social and Political Union



Frederick Pethick-Lawrence

male suffragette who was arrested and went on hunger strike in prison



David Lloyd George

Prime Minister when the Representation of the People Act was passed

Spring 2 (after half term)

KEY VOCABULARY

electricity

electricity is a **form of energy**; we can control it and use it

electrical current

the **flow of electricity**

electric shock

when **electricity flows through the human body causing a shock**; exposure to electrical energy can be dangerous, resulting in damage or death

circuit

a **path** which electricity flows around

battery

a **store of energy**, also known as a cell

light bulb

a component that **converts electrical energy to light energy**

switch

a component that **can open or close an electrical circuit**

wire

a **thin piece of metal covered in plastic** that conducts electricity

conductor

materials that **allow electricity to pass through** them are called conductors

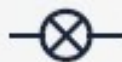
insulator

materials that **do not allow electricity to pass through** are called insulators

battery



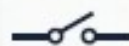
bulb



wire

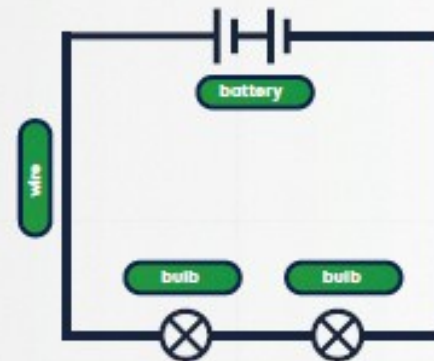


switch



electrical symbols

series circuit



a series circuit has one path for electricity to flow

AA battery

1.5 V (volts)



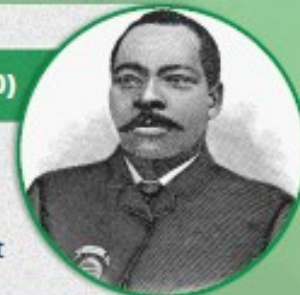
car battery

12 V (volts)



Granville T Woods (1856-1910)

an inventor and electrical engineer who worked on many inventions that made electrical railways safer and more efficient





light

light is a **source of illumination, it allows us to see**; there are natural and artificial sources of light on earth (the sun is a natural source of light that supports life on earth)

speed of light

the speed of light is believed to be **the fastest speed at which anything in the universe can travel**, approximately 650 million miles per hour; scientists use the speed of light when calculating vast distances in space

mirror

a **surface which reflects a clear image**; archaeologists have found mirrors made from polished stone dating back over 6000 years (the ancient Egyptians used polished copper to create mirrors)

shade

a **dark patch where light has been blocked**; shade is darker and cooler than areas exposed to direct sunlight

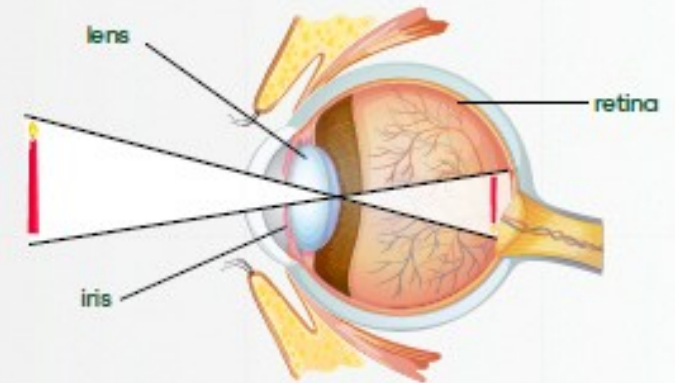
reflection

the **return of light from a surface**; some materials absorb light, but others reflect it

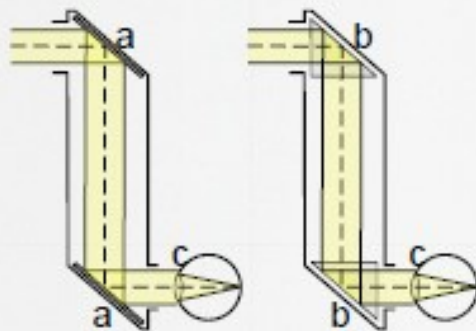
prism

a wedge shaped object which **can split white light into a rainbow spectrum of colours**; scientists call the splitting of light 'dispersion'

cross section of a human eye



light is essential for our eyes to see



a **periscope**: a device that uses reflection of light to allow the user to see something that is out of their line of sight

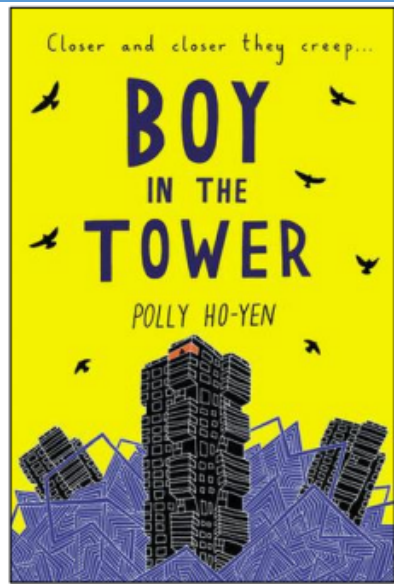
at **A**, the mirrors are tilted 45°

at **B**, the light reflects from the mirrors travelling down the Periscope

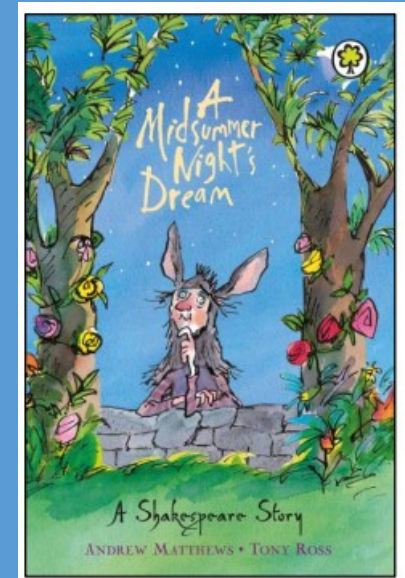
at **C**, the image can be seen by the user



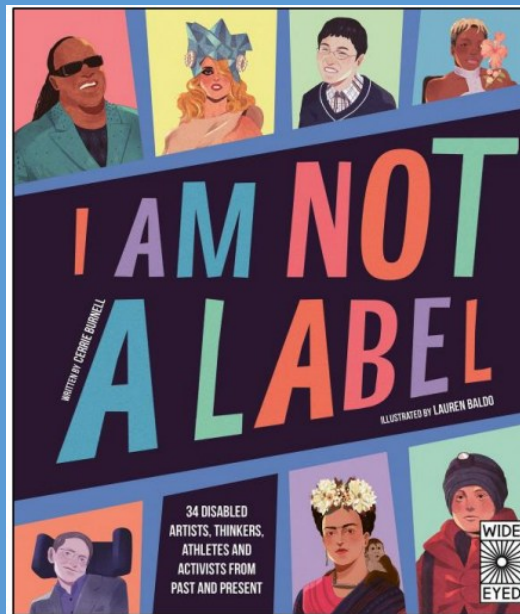
a prism can split white light into rainbow colours



The story centres on an ordinary boy, Ade, who lives with his mum at the top of a tower block. One day, buildings around them begin to fall down. Told to evacuate the city, people leave, including his best friend, Gaia. However, Ade's mum, who is agoraphobic, won't leave the flat. Soon, it becomes clear that menacing plants, called Bluchers, are responsible. Trapped in his tower block, Ade draws on all of his resilience to look after himself and his mum whilst he watches the Bluchers move ever closer. Meanwhile, he befriends some other residents who have also remained and, together, they demonstrate the power of love and friendship to survive against the odds. A thought-provoking and heart-warming introduction to dystopic fiction that pupils will love.

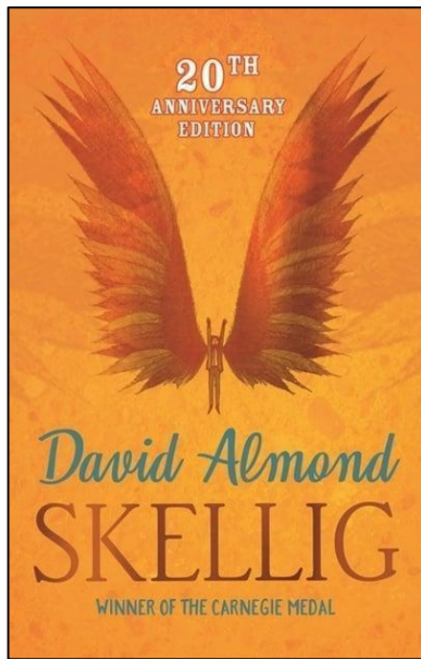


This is an anthology which examines the lives of a range of disabled artists, athletes, scientists and activists from across the generations. The author's motivation is to ensure that people with a disability are represented in children's literature. As she says, "Everyone deserves to see someone like them in a story or achieving great things." Each of the profiles inspires with stories of perseverance, resilience and courage, to name but a few. Illustrated beautifully, this book will help to overcome misconceptions and prejudice and to communicate the importance of inclusivity.

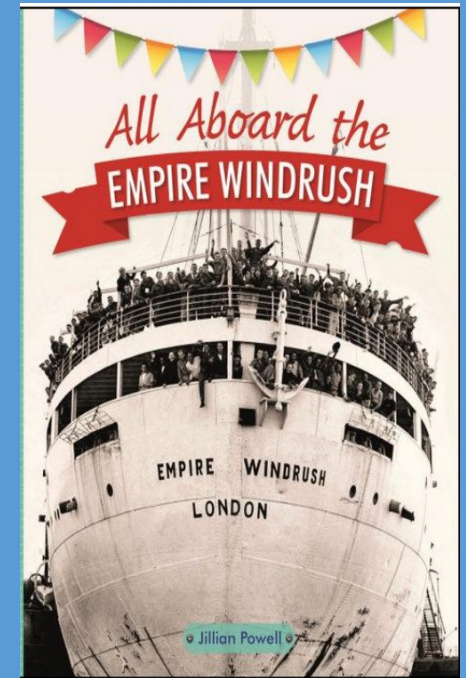


This modern re-telling of Shakespeare's classic love story brings together the worlds of humans and fairies. Beginning in Athens, it focuses on the four characters of Hermia, Helena, Demetrius and Lysander. Hermia is due to marry Demetrius but loves Lysander and Helena is in love with Demetrius. Much of the action takes place in the magical woodland world of Oberon, King of the Fairies, where we meet the impish fairy, Puck. The intervention of Puck leads to confusion and hilarious consequences, causing various characters to fall in love with the wrong partner. In the end, magic puts things right.

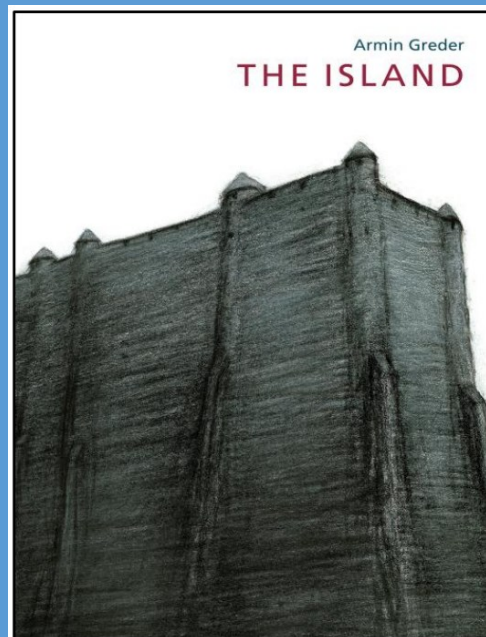
Year 5 Reading Texts



Having moved to a new house, Michael, the narrator, discovers an unusual being, called Skellig, in a dilapidated garage. Half man, half beast, Skellig is seemingly unwell. As his parents are distracted by the illness of a new baby, Michael feels he can only confide in his new neighbour, a girl called Mina. Together they help Skellig to recover and experience some magical times with him, all against the backdrop of concern over the survival of the new baby. In a magical ending, Skellig breathes new life into the baby and then leaves Michael and Mina, between whom a strong bond has developed.



This haunting picture book, illustrated with striking charcoal images, is about how human beings respond to outsiders. When a man is washed up on the islanders' beach, they are very unwelcoming. He appears different to them and is treated as a potential threat. Although at first they feel they can't send him back out to sea, his presence continues to cause a problem. The fisherman is the only one from the island who tries to be kind to the man. Collectively, the islanders convince each other that the man is a danger and push him back out to sea, burning the fisherman's boat to punish him for showing kindness. In a final demonstration of their paranoia, the islanders build a wall around the island to keep others out.



In 1948, the Empire Windrush sailed from Jamaica to Britain - on board, passengers hoping for a better life ahead. The narrative is told through a diary, written by an eleven-year-old boy called Preston, alongside factual commentary. It explains the reasons why people from the West Indies, amongst others, chose to make the journey, what life was like on board and the challenges they faced in making a new home in another country. Towards the end, the reader learns how the Windrush generation has contributed to British society today, including cultural events such as the Notting Hill Carnival. The use of archived photographs helps to bring the events to life for the reader.

Year 6 Reading Texts



Product/User/Purpose

Making card which operates using an electrical circuit for a friend/member of their family.

Sessions

1. **Research, Investigate and Design**
2. **Make**
3. **Use and Evaluate**

Note that this unit is designed to be taught in conjunction with the year 6 science unit, Electricity (Spring A) and acts to replace lessons 4 and 5 in that sequence of lessons. It is anticipated that the three sessions specified in this lesson series should take no longer than 2 hours.

Concepts

- Process of design
- Electrical Toys: user and purpose in everyday examples.
- Electrical systems: circuits, batteries, bulbs, buzzers and motors.
- Structures and materials to make a product with an electrical circuit —strong, stiff and stable.

Aspects of Design/Context/Events

Home/School

Links with Other PKC Subjects

Year 6 Science: Spring A; Electricity; Electrical circuits

National Curriculum Coverage

Key stage 2

Through a variety of creative and practical activities, pupils should be taught the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to engage in an iterative process of designing and making. They should work in a range of relevant contexts (for example, the home, school, leisure, enterprise). When designing and making, pupils should be taught to:

Design—use research and develop design criteria to inform the design of innovative, functional, appealing products that are fit for purpose, aimed at particular individuals or groups; generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion, annotated sketches.

Make—select from and use a wider range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks, for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing; select from and use a wider range of materials and components, including construction materials, according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities.

Evaluate—investigate and analyse a range of existing products; evaluate their ideas and products against their own design criteria and consider the views of others to improve their work; understand how key events and individuals in design and technology have helped shape the world.

Technical knowledge - apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures; understand and use electrical systems in their products, for example, series circuits incorporating switches and bulbs.

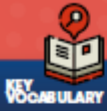
Skills

Research and Investigate Examples of products which use electrical circuits.

Design Devising criteria (user, purpose, function, appeal); generate/innovate/develop ideas; create annotated drawings.

Make Select tools/materials for making a card with an electrical circuit, connecting components, cutting, different ways of joining, decorating, finishing

Use and Evaluate Written evaluation against criteria and existing products



pitta bread

a **type of flatbread** common in the **Mediterranean** and the **Middle East**. It is known by a variety of different names in different countries and regions (e.g. 'pide' in Turkey). When the bread is baked it puffs up creating a 'pocket' inside

flatbread

a type of bread which is **flat**; pitta bread is a flatbread

wheat

a **type of grain** which is farmed and used to make **flour**. Most bread is made from wheat

yeast

an ingredient which is often **used in making bread** to make it '**rise**' (so it becomes springy with air bubbles in it)
it is a living organism which produces carbon dioxide when it feeds on sugar

leavened

when bread dough has **yeast added** to it, to make it rise

unleavened

when bread dough **does not have yeast added** to it

dough

a **thick mixture of flour** and other ingredients. Bread is made from dough which needs to be baked

knead

to **squeeze/press dough repeatedly** until it is **smooth and stretchy**. Pitta bread dough needs to be kneaded before it is baked

bake

to **cook** something in an **oven** – bread is baked (pitta bread is traditionally baked in a fire)



map showing countries which are known for making pitta bread



pitta bread being baked in a fire



wheat growing in a field



flour



dried yeast



kneading the dough

Cana

This is a place in Galilee where Jesus and his mother went to a wedding. It was at this wedding the Jesus performed his first public miracle - turning water into wine.



Bethesda

The Pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem is written about in John's Gospel when Jesus healed a paralysed man.



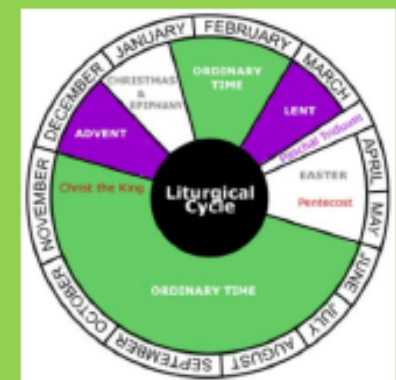
Lazarus

In John's Gospel, there is the story of Lazarus. Lazarus was the brother of Martha and Mary, they lived in Bethany near Jerusalem. Jesus loved the family and when he heard that Lazarus had died from illness, he travelled to him. The body had been in the tomb for four days but was raised from the dead by Jesus.



Sacraments

The sacraments are seven meeting points, where God himself is present, waits for you, blesses you and leads you deeper into the community of the church. Baptism, Penance, Eucharist, Confirmation, Matrimony, Holy Orders, Anointing of the sick



Bethany

A village in Judea, two miles east of Jerusalem. Lazarus was from Bethany with his sisters Martha and Mary (who anointed Jesus' feet).



Anoint

Oil is placed on someone or something in a religious ceremony to make it sacred. Kings, priests and prophets were anointed. Holy oils are used in baptism, confirmation and holy orders. They are used in the anointing of the sick to give strength.



Discourse

This is a type of speech (sometimes oral and sometimes written) It can be a conversation, talk, lecture, letter or poem. There are 5 discourses of Matthew (Jesus' discourses written in the Gospel of Matthew)

Sermon on the Mount, Mission Discourse, Parabolic Discourse, the Discourse on the Church, Discourse on End Times.

Pilate

Pontius Pilate was the 5th Governor of the Roman governed Judaea. He served from about 26 AD to 37AD. He was the official at the trial of Jesus and ordered his crucifixion. He did not want to execute Jesus but listened to the crowds. *"...he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of the just person..."*



Crucifixion

A punishment that puts to death a person who is condemned. The Romans used it as a punishment. The person is nailed, through his hands and feet, to a large wooden cross and left to die.



Holy Week

Easter Holy Week timeline

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1st Holy Week Monday Jesus cleans the Temple in the Temple in Jerusalem. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple.	2nd Holy Week Tuesday Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple.	3rd Holy Week Wednesday Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple.	4th Holy Week Thursday Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple.	5th Holy Week Friday Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple.	6th Holy Week Saturday Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple.	7th Holy Week Sunday Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple. Jesus teaches in the Temple.

Stations of the Cross

A series of 14 images that tell the events of the Passion of Christ from his Condemnation to his placing in the tomb.

