

# MIGHTY METALS



## *Mighty Metals* *Sandpiper, Eider & Harlequin*

Welcome back to the Autumn Term and for your children to another new year at Priestley. We hope you have had an enjoyable summer. The children have certainly had lots of exciting stories to share. We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead. It is so lovely to see the staff again and have the children back.

The start of any new academic year is always important for your children. There is always excitement and anxiety about what the expectations of the new year will be. We hope that the children will see the year as one in which to consolidate learning from the summer term last year, move forward, improve their work to the best of their ability and to take pride in everything they do. We will be focussing on settling the children, building relationships, and ensuring classes are happy safe places where the children will thrive. As well as hard work and effort, we are sure we will have a year that will be different but still full of fun together and we are very much looking forward to enjoying being part of the Priestley family Thank you in advance for your understanding as we try to make this work for everybody We in school will do everything we can to help your child to do their best. Let us know if we can support you in any way. So far things have run smoothly. The children are doing a wonderful job!

### **Over this term here are a few things to tickle your taste buds!**

**Curriculum Focus** - Mighty metals are everywhere! From earrings to rockets, metals have shaped the world we live in today.

Our Topic is 'Mighty Metals.' You're an engineer, a scientist, a maker of men (iron men, of course). Explore the scientific world of forces and magnetism, metals and materials. Expand your mind as you test and trial, build and move. Which force is at play as you slide down a slide or swing on a swing? This term, we're going to become fantastic physicists, exploring the world of forces, metals and materials. Open your mind as you test trial, build and move. Which force is at play as you slide or swing? Can you explain why magnets repel and attract? Can you make a penny look shiny and new, or build a steel band from pots and pans?

Meet Hogarth, the Iron Man's companion. The Iron Man wants an iron friend... We will go head to toe in competition to build him one. They must be strong, sturdy and 'ready to rumble!'

If you were a metal, which one would you be? Gold, a shimmering, precious and costly mineral? Or steel, that strong and useful alloy? Maybe you're iron, malleable and easy to shape, but ready to rust! Perhaps you are not a metal at all – but a force. A force to be reckoned with!

**English Focus** – we will be using the fabulous book 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes to support the children's reading and writing skills.

**Reading:** We will build on our existing reading skills with a focus on consolidating our decoding, prediction and retrieval skills as we read 'The Iron Man' before developing our prediction and inference skills through imagery, drama and short texts linked to our learning We will be summarising key points, investigating language and vocabulary. We will be continuing to develop our ability to retrieve information from a text to answer questions, when reading for meaning and understanding.

**Writing:** we will be using 'The Iron Man'—Ted Hughes and several genres of writing will be explored. In Year 3 and 4, we will continue to develop the children's skills of planning, drafting and reviewing what they have written. The children will learn to identify the audience for and purpose of their writing. They will also be learning to use grammar appropriately in their writing and bring their writing to life using drama.

**Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar:** This term there will be a focus on developing the clarity and fluidity of our sentences in writing via spelling (using our topic spellings in particular), punctuation and language structures. We will focus on ensuring our sentences are correctly punctuated consistently. We shall also build our knowledge through learning new sentence structures as

well as the use of different punctuation. Lastly, there will be a renewed focus on handwriting ensuring it is of the highest standard in all aspects of the learning.

**Maths Focus** – We will be following the National Curriculum supported by the White Rose Maths Scheme. We will continue to develop our understanding of place value and column addition and subtraction. Further, our focus seeks to revise known multiplications while increasing our knowledge of the 3, 4, 6-, 7-, 8- and 9-times table: this will be underpinned by a growing understanding of division facts and the relationship between the two. Rounding, ordering and comparing numbers will assist the year group in becoming better mathematicians.

### Spikey Values



We will also be working on our Spikey Values and putting a great emphasis on the development all our Spikey skills so all our children can become 'Super Spikey Learners.'. We will be explaining that treating everyone with respect, thinking things through, giving everything a go, being on time and in school every day, wearing the correct uniform and working hard in school is incredibly important for the children to achieve their best.

### P.E

Participation in P.E is hugely important for the development of health, fitness, and wider skills for learning such as resilience and collaboration. P.E days are:

- ✓ **Sandpiper – Wednesday & Thursday**
- ✓ **Eider – Wednesday & Friday**
- ✓ **Harlequin – Wednesday & Thursday**

P.E kits will be brought into school on P.E days left in school then taken home at the end of the week. Please check your child's P.E. kit that all clothing and shoes still fit. Some of our P.E sessions (Wednesday mornings) are being practiced outside so a dark pair of jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt can also be included for comfort against the chilly mornings we are still experiencing. **Please label all uniform and P.E kits with your child's name. This way we can ensure that missing uniform finds its way back to the correct owner.**

### Drinks

Just a reminder that only still water should be sent in plastic bottles please. Juice, sparkling or flavoured water should not be sent in. Your support is appreciated. Research shows that drinking water throughout the day helps children to work at their optimum level.

### Healthy Break Time Snacks

Children in Year 3 and 4 are not provided with fresh fruit and vegetables through the National Fruit Scheme. So please send in a healthy snack for them to enjoy at break time to keep up their energy levels.

### Unlocking the learning at home....

**Reading** – Children should be reading at home at least four times a week. Please listen to your child read and regularly discuss their reading with them. Regular reading aloud is vital to children's vocabulary and fluency development. Please log onto Reading Planet - <https://my.risingstars-uk.com>

**Spellings** – Spellings will be posted on the Spikey Takeaway Menu. Spellings will focus specifically on the Year 3 and 4 Common Exception words. Try the Spooky Spellings game to support the learning.  
<https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/spookySpellings/index.html>

**Times Tables** - Children must know **ALL** their tables by the end of Year 4 so any chance to recite them with your child is great. We will be working on all tables across Year 3 & 4. Not just 3x4 but 4x3 and  $12 \div 3 = 4$  and  $12 \div 4 = 3$ . We will be practising these using songs and practical activities.

All children in **Year 4 will be participating** in the Government's Multiplication Screening Check during **June 24**. This will involve them answering times tables questions on an iPad. The test consists of 25 multiplication questions. The aim is for the children to answer each question within 5/6 seconds. To help your child prepare for this they just need to be practicing their times tables daily. This should be done through TTRS but also verbally! Give them questions as they walk to school, tidy the house or help clear up after tea! The more they practice the quicker they will get!

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents-text-version--2>

The video link has been produced by the department for education to explain the details of the Multiplication Screening Check.  
<https://youtu.be/ct5cDctLVTI>

**Times Table Rockstars** - is the perfect way to help prepare the children for the Multiplication Screening Check. Please log on to Times Tables Rockstar - <https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>

**Times tables.co.uk** - <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

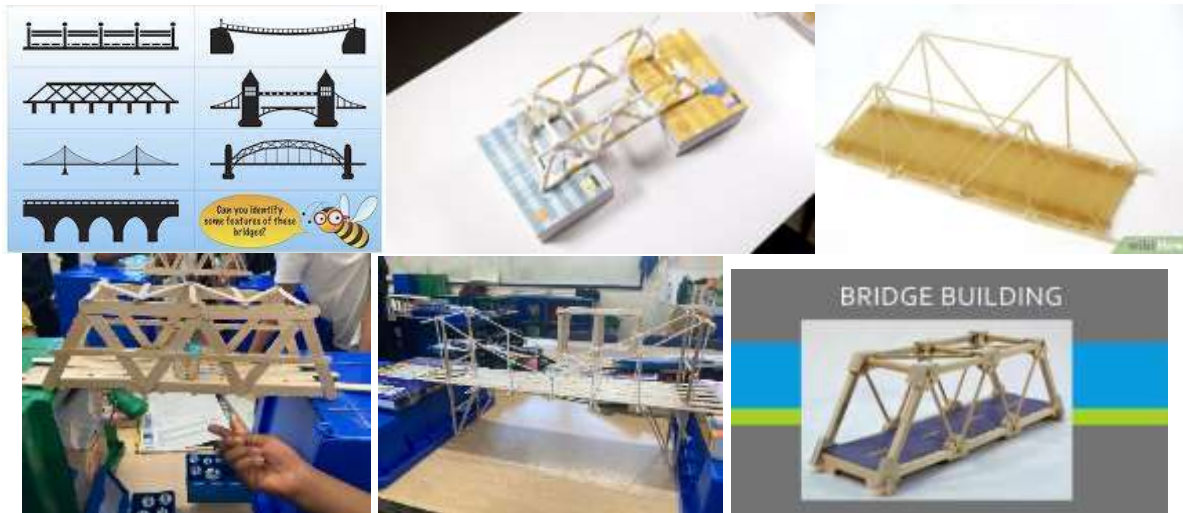
**Spikey Takeaway Menu** – will include a selection of work across different subject areas to be completed over a 2-week period.

**Science** - BBC Bitesize – Forces and Motion – KS2 Science <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znmmn39>

DKfindout! – What is friction? <https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/science/forces-and-motion/friction/>

BBC Bitesize – What are water and air resistance? <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvr3nrd/articles/zxw6gdm>  
 Britannica Kids – Galileo – Homework Help <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Galileo/351402>  
 Britannica Kids – Isaac Newton – Homework Help <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Isaac-Newton/353532>  
 DKfindout! – How do magnets work? <https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/science/magnets/>  
 DKfindout! – What is a lever? <https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/science/simple-machines/levers/>  
 DKfindout! – Uses of metals- <https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/science/materials/metals/>  
 Britannica Kids – Metal – Homework Help <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/metal/390809>

**Home Learning Projects** –.....as always, we have received some super examples of home learning, some of which are displayed in the classrooms and the corridors. This homework is set over a longer period and gives your child a choice in how they want to extend their learning. We have received some fabulous examples of home learning projects last year and are very much looking forward to what the next topic brings. This term the homework is to create and make their own **model of a bridge**. See pictures below for some fantastic ideas. **Please return the Home Learning Project to school by Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September** Happy making!



**Help your child prepare for their learning:**

**Topic-** Metals and magnets are everywhere! Why not do a hunt around the house to see how metal is used?

- ✓ Use information books and the internet to find out about contact and non-contact forces, including friction, gravity and magnetism. Create an information poster to report your findings. Include a title, headings, facts and pictures.
- ✓ Galileo Galilei was a famous 16th century scientist who carried out experiments to learn about forces. Use the internet or information books to find out about Galileo’s law of free fall, then write a short descriptive report. You might like to learn more about other scientific discoveries that he made.
- ✓ Gravity is a force that pulls things to the ground. The scientist, Sir Isaac Newton, first described gravity. Use a range of sources to find out more about gravity and the life and discoveries of Sir Isaac Newton. Afterwards, write a non-chronological report about Sir Isaac Newton and how he discovered gravity, as well as what gravity is and does. Include a title, headings, facts and pictures.
- ✓ Create a piece of art using aluminium foil. You can find many examples on the internet by typing key terms, such as ‘aluminium foil art ideas’, into the search bar.
- ✓ Visit a local playground with a range of play apparatus. Allow the children time to play, thinking about how the equipment works. For example, what makes the swing move to and fro? Do all things slide down the slide at the same speed? What prevents you from being flung off the roundabout? Take digital images of the different play equipment in use, trying to capture the swinging, spinning or whooshing motions!

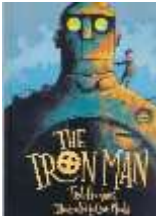
Finally, thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to another successful term, for your child, for you and for our whole school community. Any questions please don’t hesitate to contact us via [ask@priestley.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:ask@priestley.wilts.sch.uk)

Mrs Marsh-Ballard, Miss Waterfield & Miss Ward



# MIGHTY METALS



<p>English</p> 	<p>In English we will be exploring the new illustrated version of 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. Merging science fiction with fairy tale, The Iron Man tells the story of a gigantic metal robot who appears out of nowhere, crashing onto the beach and shattering into many parts. He is discovered by Hogarth, a young boy. The Iron Man proceeds to devour farm machinery, until the farmers revolt against him.</p>
<p>Art</p>	<p>In art we will be finding out about the sculpture Alberto Giacometti. We will also be creating a 3d sculpture in the same style.</p>
<p>History</p>	<p>In history we will be finding out about Isambard Kingdom Brunel and why he was an important figure in history.</p>
<p>RE</p>	<p>Learning about Islam and finding out about the festival Eid ul-Adha, also known as the Greater Eid and finding out about the Hajj - a pilgrimage Muslims make to the holy city of Mecca.</p>
<p>Computing</p>	<p>In computing we will be using drawing &amp; desktop publishing programmes.</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>Learning to appraise, sing and perform songs. Learning how to sing different songs in different styles and creating sequences of sounds and vocals.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p>	<p>In maths we will be following National Curriculum supported by The White Rose Scheme. We will be working on Place Value, Addition &amp; Subtraction.</p>
<p>PSHE</p>	<p>In our PSHE lessons, we will be following the Jigsaw unit of learning- Being Me in My World. Thinking about setting goals and wellbeing.</p>
<p>Spanish</p>	<p>In Spanish we will be engaging in conversations, asking and answering questions in the context of greeting people.</p>
<p>P. E</p>	<p>In P.E we will be looking at the skills needed for net and wall games and developing, strength, stamina and agility. We will also be comparing performances and playing competitive games (sending &amp; striking)</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>In Science, we are learning about Forces and Magnets. We will be thinking about the effects of friction and gravity and testing these scientifically. We will also be working collaboratively and looking at the advantages of and disadvantages of friction.</p>