

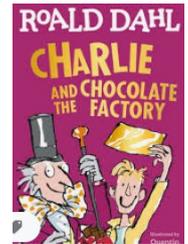
In the Summer our learning curriculum in Year 3 and 4 has focused on some big questions:

Why do Oompa Loompas need to be good scientists?

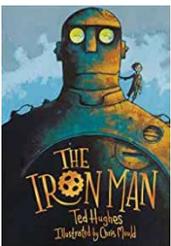
We started this topic in 'the world of pure imagination' with a sweet and chocolate tasting session, as if we were Willy Wonka! We learnt about the states of matter, solid, liquids and gases and answered the following questions: How much gas is there in fizzy lifting juice? How do they keep the chocolate river flowing? Can we make an everlasting ice lolly? What do Oompa Loompas need to know to work in the factory?



The children really enjoyed the experiments and investigations and learnt that all things are made of tiny particles, we can weigh gas, and that chocolate has a melting and freezing point much higher than water. We read Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, by Roald Dahl too and produced some fabulous descriptive writing.



How can we stop the Iron Man from causing total destruction?



We read the book, The Iron Man, by Ted Hughes as we learnt about forces and magnets. We answered the following questions: What forces are needed for the Iron Man to move? Why would he be scared of magnets? Can we use magnets to stop the Iron Man, if so how? We carried out investigations to find out how friction worked, which materials were magnetic and which magnets were the strongest. Year 3/4 really loved this book and at the end of this topic we all designed and made a trap to capture the Iron Man.



Why is light so special?



This topic started with a glow in the dark disco, the creation of firework pictures and the story, The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark. We questioned why some people are afraid of the dark and how light can keep us safe. We became secret agents using mirrors and found out how to stay safe under the sun. Year 3/4 discovered that Peter Pan couldn't really lose his shadow as he made it by blocking light, and that materials can be opaque, translucent or transparent.



Our topic culminated with some fantastic shows, using puppets that we made ourselves. We continued to read The Firework Maker's daughter, which was our linked text, and wrote amazing poems about fireworks which included rich and powerful vocabulary.