

Topic – Let There Be Light

‘Take Away’ Vocabulary

Mechanism: a system of parts working together in a machine.

LDR: a light dependent resistor.

Microprocessor: an integrated circuit that contains all the functions of a central processing unit of a computer.

Motor: a machine, especially one powered by electricity or internal combustion that supplies motive power for a vehicle or for another device with moving parts.

Toggle switch: an operating lever that can be pushed up and down or left and right to switch an electrical circuit.

Reed switch: an electromechanical switch operated by an applied magnetic field.

All of these words will come up at some point in our DT and Science lessons. We would love you to read through the definitions and show an adult at home.

Remember that we have lots of topic books in class, so if you are still unsure of a meaning, you can ask to borrow a book. 😊

Science & DT – Electricity & Circuits

amps	How electric current is measured.	monitor	When a component of an electrical system responds to the environment and changes the function of the system.
bulb	A device used to convert electricity into light.	output device	Components that produce an outcome e.g. bulbs and buzzers.
cell / battery	A device that stores energy as a chemical until it is needed. A cell is a single unit. A battery is a collection of cells.	parallel circuit	In a parallel circuit, all components are connected across each other, forming exactly two sets of electrical output.
circuit	A complete and closed path that an electrical current can flow around.	program	To set an electrical system to follow a set of commands.
component	A part of a system, process or machine.	resistance	The difficulty that the electric current has when flowing around a circuit.
computer control input	When a switch, such as a micro switch, sends a signal to a computer control box to activate a sequence of events such as a buzzer or light being used to attract attention or alert people.	series circuit	A path through which electricity passes.
conductor	A material which electricity, heat or sound can flow through. It is the opposite of an insulator.	switch	A device for making and breaking in the connection in an electrical circuit.
control	Using programming and monitoring to make an electrical system to follow specific instructions.	switches	A device for making and breaking the connection in an electric circuit.
current	A flow of electricity, measured in amps.	symbol	A visual pictures that stands for something else.
electrons	Very small particles that travel around an electrical circuit.	system	A set of related parts or components that together achieve a desired outcome.
input device	Components that are used to control an electrical circuit e.g. switches or sensors.	voltage	The force that makes the electric current move through the wires. The greater the voltage, the more the current will flow.
light emitting diode (LED)	An output device that glows when electricity is passed through it.	wire	Metal drawn out into the form of a thin flexible thread.
microcontroller	A device that can be programmed to control how an electrical product operates.		