Topic Name	Forces
Big Question	Can you feel the force?
Scientists to use as examples	Isaac Newton, Albert Einstein, Galileo Galilei
Key Knowledge	• explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object • identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces • recognise that some mechanisms including levers, pulleys and gears allow a smaller force to have a greater effect Pupils should explore falling objects and raise questions about the effects of air resistance. They should explore the effects of air resistance by observing how different objects such as parachutes and sycamore seeds fall. They should experience forces that make things begin to move, get faster or slow down. Pupils should explore the effects of friction on movement and find out how it slows or stops moving objects, for example, by observing the effects of a brake on a bicycle wheel. Pupils should explore the effects of levers, pulleys and simple machines on movement. Pupils might find out how scientists, for example, Galileo Galilei and Isaac Newton helped to develop the theory of gravitation.
Key investigational skills	Pupils might work scientifically by: exploring falling paper cones or cupcake cases, and designing and making a variety of parachutes and carrying out fair tests to determine which designs are the most effective. They might explore resistance in water by making and testing boats of different shapes. They might design and make products that use levers, pulleys, gears and/or springs and explore their effects.
Vocabulary	Force, gravity, Earth, air resistance, water resistance, friction, mechanisms, simple machines, levers, pulleys, gears
Prior learning – what children should know	Compare how things move on different surfaces. (Y3 - Forces and magnets) • Notice that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance. (Y3 - Forces and magnets) • Observe how magnets attract or repel each other and attract some materials and not others. (Y3 - Forces and magnets) • Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of whether they are attracted to a magnet, and identify some magnetic materials. (Y3 - Forces and magnets) • Describe

	magnets as having two poles. (Y3 - Forces and magnets) • Predict whether two magnets will attract or repel each other, depending on which poles are facing. (Y3 - Forces and magnets)
Future learning – next time they will be learning	Forces as pushes or pulls, arising from the interaction between two objects. (KS3) • Using force arrows in diagrams, adding forces in one dimension, balanced and unbalanced forces. (KS3) • Moment as the turning effect of a force. (KS3) • Forces: associated with deforming objects; stretching and squashing – springs; with rubbing and friction between surfaces, with pushing things out of the way; resistance to motion of air and water. (KS3) • Forces measured in Newtons, measurements of stretch or compression as force is changed.
Visits	
Book links	How does it work – David McAuley