Making Roman Catapults (Mechanisms)

We are learning to design and make a Roman catapult.

A catapult was a simple machine. It was used to throw heavy objects at the enemy with great force during warfare.

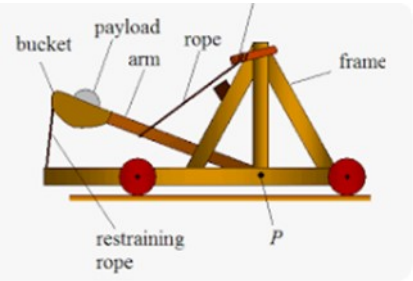
A catapult is a device that stores energy and releases it very quickly, acting as a projectile sending something far away.

What have we already learnt?

Children have had a lot of experience at making structures using different joining methods within KS2 and in KS1 they experienced making pictures and vehicles with moving parts. They are now combining these skills during this unit.

Wood and horsehair ropes that were used on Roman catapults

Catapults use the scientific idea that when a force (push or a pull) is used an opposing force (push or a pull) is felt, e.g. springs, rubber bands, etc



Vocabulary	Definition
chassis	the frame, wheels, and machinery of a motor vehicle, on which the body is supported
motion	when an object moves from one place to another
kinetic energy	the energy an object has due to its motion
winch	a machine, run by motor or hand, that pulls or lifts objects by a rope or cable that is wound around a drum
lever	a simple machine made of a rigid beam and a fulcrum
fulcrum	The fulcrum is the point on which the beam pivots.
projectile	something that is sent flying through the air, usually as a weapon