



Gisburn Road Community Primary School

Autumn Term I – September to October 2024



AUTUMN I WITH THE POWERFUL OWLS



Welcome back to school after what we hope has been a lovely summer holiday! We are ready for an exciting year in school.

We are so happy to see you all back in school ready for a busy half term full of new learning opportunities. We have already had a lovely first week back at school together with lots of challenges and learning in the classroom. You have all settled into Year 1 so well and have made me so proud already with your fantastic behaviour and excellent attitude towards your learning.

To keep up to date with what is going on in school and any parent sessions we would like you to attend, please visit our school Facebook page or follow the link below which takes you to our 'What's on' calendar <https://www.gisburnroad.com/CALENDAR>. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to e-mail me via the cohort e-mail address of powerfulowls@gisburnroad.com which will be checked every Monday. For any urgent / important information, please contact the school office on 812287 or catch us in the yard.

The rest of this newsletter will let you know what pupils will be learning about in Year 1 in their first half term. We look forward to getting to know you and your children better over the coming months.

Mrs Martin & Mrs Wheeler

PSHE

During our first half term we will be learning:

- What our brain looks like and how it helps us.
- That the brain has 3 parts and what Neuroplasticity is.
- What happens when people feel happy and sad.
- Happy Breathing and how it helps us.
- That our brain can react differently in different situations.
- Thinking about how we can use our new knowledge.

English

In English this half term we shall be focusing on the text 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. We will be studying the book, making predictions based on what has been read so far and discussing the main events and characters. We will retell the story orally, using talk4Writing techniques and making inferences on what is being said and done. We will then use what we know to write our own version of the story with our own innovation of the characters and setting. Following this, we will be studying non-fiction information texts and writing our own information text, based on an animal.



Mathematics

The mathematics units we are studying this half term are:

- Number and Place Value – counting to 30, finding one more and one less and comparing quantities
- Measurement, Length and Mass – comparing length and height using our body parts and comparing and measuring mass
- Addition and Subtraction – Understanding number bonds, adding and subtracting numbers and solving problems
- Geometry 2D and 3D shapes – Naming circles, triangles, square rectangles, oblong rectangles, spheres, pyramids, cubes and cuboids

Science



This half term, we are studying 'Animals' with an exciting visit to the aquarium to finish the unit. We will be identifying and naming a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals and investigating whether they are carnivores, herbivores or omnivores. We will be looking at the structure of these animals and finding out how animals look different to one another before grouping them in different ways.

Computing

In Computing, we will be learning to:

- Use computers more purposefully
- Log in and navigate around a computer
- Drag, drop, click and control a cursor using a mouse
- Use software tools to create art on the computer



Religious Education

Our unit this half term is Christianity, linked to God. Our focus question is: What lights our way? Pupils will explore the Christian use of the term 'father' to address God, especially in prayer. We will also be visiting Holy Trinity Church to learn about prayer and a Christian's view of God.

Art

This half term our focus is 'Drawing into 3D – Clay'. We will enjoy experimenting with a variety of media; pencils, rubbers, crayons, pastels, felt tips, charcoal, ballpoints, chalk and then move on to creating our own animal with playdough and clay.

Physical Education

PE will take place on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. Please make sure that pupils have a labelled PE kit in school including pumps, shorts and a t-shirt. This half term, we will be focussing on developing children's fundamental skills, including running, hopping, skipping, jumping, throwing etc. and using our new skills in games situations.

Geography

Our topic is 'Hot and cold Areas of the World' and is focused on identifying the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles. We will use a range of maps and globes and recognising differences between their own and others' lives around the world.



THINGS TO REMEMBER

PE Days: Tuesday and Thursday.

Library: Thursday

Home Learning: Home learning will be sent home on a Friday and should be completed for the following Thursday. This will include an English task and a Maths task. Please feel free to send any of your child's creative learning that they would like to study more of at home to powerfulowls@gisburnroad.com.

Reading: Your child should read and discuss their reading book at least 3 x a week for at least 5-10 minutes. This will help them to improve their fluency and comprehension skills, which will also help them to improve their writing skills. Please ensure home reading records and books are in school daily as we do also try to read with pupils as often as we can.