



Gisburn Road Community Primary School

Spring Term I – January to February 2025



WELCOME BACK

Congo Bay Owls

We hope that you and your families are all well and that you have had a lovely Christmas and New Year. During this half term, we will be very busy in school and have planned some exciting learning tasks. We hope to catch up with our Parents in class this half term and will let you know a date as soon as possible.

Remember to keep up to date with our school Facebook page, Twitter and the class page on the website. If you would like to pass on any urgent information, we will be on the yard each evening but you can also contact the office on 812287; Mrs Barwell will pass on any important information.

Mrs Whittaker & Mrs Holman
Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Wilson

PSHE : This half term we will be focusing on the theme of '**Appreciate**'. This will cover:

- How they can develop an Attitude of Gratitude at home and school
- How to create a Gratitude Domino Effect - when we notice what makes us feel good, we show more gratitude to others and then that makes them feel good and show more gratitude too.
- That the more time they think about gratitude, the stronger the Neural Pathways get and the easier it is to give gratitude. This is because of Neuroplasticity, and we need to make it a habit.
- How giving gratitude can help us get through tough times, and when we can see everything we are grateful for, it makes the problems we face a little easier to manage.

English – In English this half term, we shall be studying the Wallace and Gromit programme 'A Matter of loaf and death' to focus on stories with issues and dilemmas. We will work towards writing our own story based on a model and structure. We will also be looking at persuasion and persuasive adverts. We will examine what makes a good advert and then write our own for the torches we have made.



Mathematics – During this half term, we will be focusing on several different areas of maths. We will be practising our times tables every day and this is something that you can really make a difference with, by practising at home. 😊 This half term, we will focus on learning our X7 and X12s. Our maths lessons will begin by focusing on place value, including the value of decimals. We will then work to develop our strategies to multiply and divide numbers. Our final unit is fractions and we will practise adding and subtracting fractions in these lessons.

Science – This half term we will be learning about sound. We will investigate how sounds are made and travel to our ears. We will also learn about pitch, volume, and the factors that affect these.



Computing – This half term the children will be developing their research, word processing, and collaborative working skills whilst learning how web pages and web sites are created, exploring how to change layouts, embed images and videos and link between pages

Religious Education – In R.E, the children will be looking at the religion of Sikhism with a focus on how Sikhs express their beliefs and values.



Art- Our art topic for this half term is different artists who use collage in their a collage based on looking after the planet.



collage. We will be looking at the work of several work, before developing our own ideas to produce

History- During this half term, we will be going back in time to study ancient civilisations. We will compare different civilisations before focusing on Ancient Egypt. Throughout our topic, we will use enquiry skills to research how civilisations develop and the impact of the different Backburn Museum we will look at the daily lives of the mummification process the roles if different Gods and purpose of the pyramids. Finally, we will look at two significant people; Howard Carter and Tutankhamun



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Physical Education – During this half term, the children will have two PE lessons each week. One of our lessons is invasion games where children will develop skills in rugby. Our second lesson is gymnastics. During these lessons, we will practise making ‘matched’ and ‘mirrored’ shapes with a partner.

Music- Our music topic for this half term is ‘Beat’. Our lessons will develop our understanding and use of rhythm and syncopation. We will sing, play repeated patterns, listen to an orchestral piece of music and finally create our own descriptive music.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **PE DAYS : Congo Bay Owls** will be swimming on Tuesdays.
- **Outdoor and adventurous:** Every other Wednesday your child will take part in an outdoor and adventurous session to include activities such as team building, den making, allotment plus many other exciting activities. Please ensure your child has warm waterproof clothing on these days and sensible shoes/wellingtons. You will be informed of specific days for this.
- **Home Learning:** Home learning is set on Fridays and should be handed in by the following Thursday. Each week, your child will have spellings to practise, times tables practice and reading homework.
- **Reading:** We love reading! It is still vital that your child reads every day in Year 4. We have established our reading challenge with children earning rewards based on how many times an adult at home has listened to them read and signed their reading diary. By reading regularly, your child will develop fluency and comprehension skills and will also help them to improve their writing skills. It would be great to encourage your child to read a selection of non-fiction texts e.g. instructions, explanations, newspapers and magazine articles as well as fiction.

