



Gisburn Road Community Primary School Spring Term 1 – January to February 2025



WELCOME BACK TO SOOTY 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.

Remember to keep up to date with our school Facebook page, Twitter and the class page on the website. You can send children's home learning via the cohort e-mail address of pygmyowls@gisburnroad.com. I will respond to any emails on Wednesdays. If you would like to pass on any urgent information, I 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 Bradley and Mrs Wood



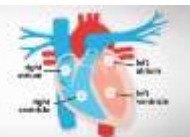
PSHE – Our Happy Mind unit for this half term is “Gratitude”. This module is all about teaching children the importance of gratitude. It looks at a number of elements of gratitude including: What happens in our brain when we give and receive gratitude? We will link this back to the science of the brain covered in the 'Meet Your Brain' module and the dopamine release that happens.

English – In English this half term, our narrative unit is based on classic texts. We will discuss what makes a book a classic before we study ‘The Wizard of Oz’ in detail. As we read, we will investigate how writers develop their characters and collect examples of archaic language. We will use what we learn to write a new chapter for the book.



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. ☺ Our maths lessons will begin by focusing on fractions, decimals and percentages. We will then work on developing our knowledge of area, perimeter and volume. Finally, we will extend our knowledge of interpreting data from a range of graphs and charts.

Science – This half term we will be learning about the human body, with a focus on keeping healthy. We will learn about the human circulatory system, including investigating our heart rates. We will then learn about the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on our bodies.



Computing – Our Computing topic for this half term is Big Data. In this topic, we will identify how bar codes and QR codes work. We will investigate how infrared waves transmit data and the use of radio-frequency identification (RFID)



Religious Education – In R.E, the children will be looking at the religion of Islam. Our focus question is, “What is Hajj and why is it important to Muslims?” We will analyse the five pillars of Islam, then we will learn about the practices and rituals of Hajj before considering the impact it may have on a Muslim.



Art- We will be going back to focus on ‘architecture’ throughout this half term. We will be looking at the work of famous artists including Antonio Gaudi and Norman Foster and will use a variety of materials to produce 3D work based on architecture. We will also work in small groups to design and make a gargoyle.



History- For our first history topic of Year 6, we are excited to be looking at World War I I. We will focus on two key questions “**What caused the mass migration of children during WWII?**” and “**How were local children and families involved?**” We will investigate a range of artefacts and sources to develop our knowledge and understanding of this period of history.

Physical Education – During this half term, the children will have two PE lessons each week (Wednesdays and Fridays). One of our lessons is invasion games where children will develop skills in rugby, including developing an understanding of tactics when playing a small game. Our second lesson is athletics. During these lessons, we will practise running, throwing and jumping skills.



THINGS TO REMEMBER

Key Stage 2 tests will take place from Monday 12th to Thursday 15th May. It is vital that ALL children are in school every day this week.

- **PE days : Pygmy Owls** have P.E on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays**. Please ensure your child has both their indoor and outdoor PE kit in school for those days.
- **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 6. 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.

