



Gisburn Road Community Primary School Spring Term 2 – February to March 2025



WELCOME TO ELF OWLS

Welcome back after half term. I hope you all enjoyed the week off and you all managed to make some happy family memories. This half term we shall be learning all about 'The Farmyard Jamboree'.



Remember you can keep up to date with our school FaceBook. You can also share any out of school learning/activities with us via the cohort email address of elfowls@gisburnroad.com

If you would like to pass on any urgent information, I will be around each morning and evening but you can also contact the office on 812287 and Mrs Barwell will pass on any important information.

Mrs Heaton, Miss Anderson and Mrs Fent

What will we be learning this Term?

Our theme in Reception this half term is going to be 'The Farmyard Jamboree'

This will involve lots of creative and practical activities and plenty of farmyard fun. Learning will continue to take place both indoors and outdoors and as always will be based upon very practical and hands-on activities. There will be many opportunities for learning in each of the seven areas of the EYFS, as outlined in more detail below. This will also include our trip to Thornton Hall Farm in Summer 1 after Easter.



Communication and Language- The children will continue to develop their communication skills by speaking in sentences about first hand experiences, answering who, what and why questions, extending vocabulary and asking questions. Communication and Language happens all of the time whilst children are busy learning through play. We have many different activities set up both indoors and outdoors to help with this. This is something you can really develop by talking to your child all of the time through the different stages of the day. E.g. whilst coming to and from school, whilst getting ready for school or bed, whilst having tea.

<http://www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/early-years/>

<http://www.teachearlyyears.com/learning-and-development/view/confident-communicators>



Personal, Social and Emotional Development- The children will continue to use the 'My Happy Mind' scheme of work and this half term we will be working on the module 'Relate'. This will teach the children the importance of being able to relate or get along with others in order to have positive relationships. It uses the Character Strengths to illustrate the need to be able to see other perspectives in order to build relationships. Through lots of examples and discussion, the children learn about two key skills that will serve them well in relationship building. We also link this to what they have learnt about Gratitude in the previous lessons so that they can bring the concepts together and show Gratitude to others for offering different perspectives.

Some other useful ideas on the website below:-

<http://www.ichild.co.uk/tags/browse/370/Personal-Social-Emotional-Development-3-5-Years>

<https://www.earlyyearsmatters.co.uk/our-services/school-and-nursery-improvement-partner/psed/>



Physical Development- During this half term we will be continuing to develop a range of skills within PE lessons: -Travelling with confidence and skill around, under, over and through balancing and climbing equipment. Showing increasing control over an object in pushing, patting, throwing, catching or kicking it. We shall also be building upon the skills we started to develop in Autumn term too. Children will also be provided with more activities involving cutting with scissors to improve their control and we will also be continuing in holding our pencils correctly to form letters for writing words and sentences. It is very important the children form letters correctly as this will help them in Year 1 when they start to join their writing.

More practical ideas to improve your child's physical development below: -

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/home-early-years/early-years-physical-development>

<https://www.earlyyearsmatters.co.uk/our-services/school-and-nursery-support/early-years-adviser/physical-development/>



Mathematics – In Maths the children will be learning all about many aspects in the following areas: shape, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, space and time. This will include 2D and 3D shapes, using part-part whole with adding and taking away within 10, doubling amounts and sharing equally, using positional language and language linked to time. Within these sessions children will be taught key skills and then work in small groups to understand more about the topic they are learning that week.

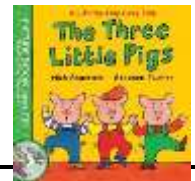
More ideas can be found here:-

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/3-5-years>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/topics/numeracy>
<https://nrich.maths.org/early-years>



Literacy- We will be learning literacy skills through reading the books 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'The Three Super Pigs'. We will develop the skill of joining in with stories through some Talk for Writing techniques, where children use actions when verbally retelling the stories. We will also be looking at many more stories through our daily 'Drawing Club' sessions. We will be really focusing on the children being able to write sentences independently and being able to read what they have written back to us or someone else. During phonics, we will be continuing to learn the rest of the Phase 3 sounds. During Guided reading I will be listening for the children reading sentences aloud independently too using lots of smooth reading. Ideas online to help your child with their reading and writing development are listed here: -

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/3-5-years>
<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks>



Understanding the World – This half term we will be exploring farm animals. We will also continue with the celebrations that take place during this half term such as Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and Mother's Day. We will be asking questions about the natural world, looking at farm animals and their babies and produce farm animals make. We will also be discussing similarities and differences between our town and the countryside. We will also be looking at different types of materials and the uses of these.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/topics>



Expressive Arts and Design – This half term the children will be making a range of different crafting items throughout the term. This will include drawing farm animals, painting farm animals and crafting farm animals using clay or playdough. The children will also be developing their knowledge of making paint colours lighter and darker along with using collage materials in making 2D and 3D backgrounds. The children will also be pretending in the role-play and small world areas and they will be working together in making up their own stories including 'The Three Little Pigs' and other farm animal stories.



THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **PE DAYS** : Reception have P.E this half term every week on **Monday** afternoons. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school every day. (With names in all clothing please as we have noticed we still have many items with no names in still). Thank you.
- **Home Learning**: Will be sent home for the children to complete. These may include things linked to letter formation, tricky words, phonic sounds linked to our phonic lessons and number work linked to our maths lessons. Sometimes children may be given different work to other children depending on individual needs. Please send back each **Thursday**.
- **Reading**: Your child will be given a book to read with you every week or when we feel they need a new one. They will be changed every **Monday, Wednesday and Friday**. The children need to sound out the words and blend them together in order for them to read the words independently. This is something we should be able to do around this time of year if your child isn't already blending. Sometimes your child may be given two books to consolidate any phase 3 sounds that are struggling to remember. The children will attend the school library each **Thursday**.

Many thanks for your kindness we really appreciate your support!