



Gisburn Road Community Primary School Spring Term 2 – February – March 2023



WELCOME BACK TO CONGO BAY OWLS



Welcome back after a week off – this year seems to be flying by; we are already half way through Year 2! This half term has lots of learning taking place as always, but with Year 2 SATs approaching in May, it is the time of year where it is especially important to be completing homework and reading as much as possible.



Due to my own son's medical needs, I will unfortunately be having to take a few days out of school this half term for some important hospital appointments. Please be assured however, that cover is arranged for learning to continue in my short absence and our routine will not be disturbed.

To keep up to date with what is going on in school, 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>. You will also receive letters with any details on too. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to e-mail me via the cohort e-mail address of congobayowls@gisburnroad.com which will be checked on a Wednesday. 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 2 this half term. If you have any resources at home that you think will enhance our learning this half term then please contact me via e-mail or catch us on the yard.

Mrs Brown and Mrs Mitchell

PSHE -

Here is what your child will be learning about this half term-

- how money can be kept and looked after
- about getting, keeping and spending money
- that people are paid to do the job they do
- how to recognise the difference between needs and wants
- how people make choices about spending money, including thinking about needs and wants



English – We will spend the first few weeks of the half term exploring 'Mudpuddle Farm: Six Animal Adventures' by Michael Morpurgo, to begin our unit on Stories with Familiar settings. We will retell these stories, make predictions and inferences and give our own opinions, before then writing our own stories based on a farm using suffixes -ful or -less to create adjectives e.g. playful, careful, careless, hopeless. We will then explore persuasive texts and write our own persuasive leaflet about a farm including suffixes -er and -est to create adjectives e.g. faster, fastest, smaller, smallest. Within our English learning, we will also create our own riddle based on a fruit or vegetable on sale at a farm shop.

Mathematics – The key aspects of maths that we will focus on this half term are:

- Length – Measuring in centimetres and metres, ordering lengths and solving measures problems
- Addition and Subtraction - with exchange, using jottings and bar models
- 2D and 3D shape – Describing and sorting 2D and 3D shapes and exploring symmetry in a 2D shape
- Fractions, Position and Direction – Recognising, naming and finding quarters or objects, lengths and quantities, including quarter turns and right angles
- Time – Telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes past

Science – This half term our focus is on Plants. We will be taking trips down to the allotment where we will be taking our learning outdoors. Parents are invited to an afternoon session on **Monday 13th February** to help us plant some plants and seeds at the allotment – a letter will follow shortly with more details. We will also investigate the conditions needed to grow seeds and learn about germination.



Computing – During this half term we will be focussing on ‘Algorithms and De-bugging’. We will start by decomposing a game to predict the algorithms that are used, this will help us to understand that machine learning enables computers to make predictions. We will then write our own algorithms and understand the terms ‘abstraction’ and ‘de-bugging’.

Religious Education – In R.E, the children will be looking at the religion of Islam. Throughout the topic, children will learn to understand the different ways that Muslim’s show respect to their God, including the rituals of Islamic prayer.



Design Technology – In our DT lessons, we will focus on salad. We will begin by researching different food items that would be included in salads – if there are any updates to allergies please let me know before our taste testing session on 27th February. We will then design our own salads, before using claw cuts and bridge cuts to prepare it safely and hygienically. Finally, we will evaluate or salads.

Physical Education- In PE, the children will be focusing on Playground Games and Orienteering. Pupils will develop their skills of dodging, hopping, catching, throwing, side galloping and striking a ball in a game situation. They will also practise remembering objects on a trail, work with a partner collaboratively to record answers and navigate safely on an adventurous journey within the school grounds.



Geography - In Geography, we will focus on Australia, in particular Melbourne, where we will find out facts about this contrasting place and explore the similarities and differences between there and where we live.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **PE DAYS** : Congo Bay Owls have P.E on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. Please make sure PE kits are in school ready for our lessons and all kit has your child’s name labelled/written in. Please ensure earrings are removed on PE days. We will try to take our P.E lessons outside as much as possible.
- **Reading**: Your child should still be reading and discussing their school reading book **at least 3x a week for 5-10 minutes**. This will help them to improve their fluency and comprehension skills. This will also help them to improve their writing skills. If your child reads other books at home, then please write those in their reading record too as they will be able to move up our reading challenge board in class to win prizes!
- School closes for Easter on Friday 31st March and re-opens for the Summer Term on 17th April

