



Gisburn Road Community Primary School Autumn Term 1 – September to October 2025



WELCOME TO YEAR 3 DUSKY OWLS!



We hope you have had a lovely summer break and are looking forward to a new year at school. We have lots of new learning opportunities planned and we are keen to embark on the learning journey ahead. The next stage of your child's school life in the juniors is an exciting time and we look forward to sharing it with you.

If you ever have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to speak to me personally or email via the class email. Any photographs, information or home learning that you would like to share with us about your child can be emailed to me at duskyowls@gisburnroad.com which will be checked every Thursday.



To keep up to date with what is going on in school and events 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>

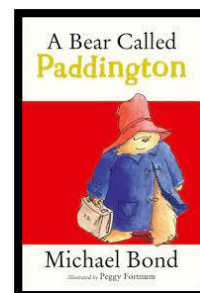
Mrs Fullalove and Miss Waterworth

PSHE – Across school we have adopted the 'My Happy Mind' curriculum, which is an NHS-backed scheme focusing on creating a culture of positive mental well-being. It gives children the knowledge, skills and tools to thrive in the modern world.

The Autumn term focuses on:

- What our brain looks like and how it helps us make decisions
- The amygdala, which causes flight, fight and freeze
- Neuroplasticity - how our brain responds and works when we learn something new
- How happy breathing techniques help to calm

English – In English this half term we shall be focusing on the text 'A Bear Called Paddington' by Michael Bond. We will be making comparisons between clips from the film and the text and discussing our preferences. We will explore new vocabulary, develop reading retrieval strategies and then plan and write our own adventure story for a brand-new Paddington catastrophe! Following this, we will be looking at a variety of sources, including clips and non-chronological reports about London, such as London City Trails (Lonely Planet Kids), to become experts on some of London's famous landmarks. After exploring key features and structures of these texts, we will then create our own leaflet for some of these landmarks.



Mathematics – The key aspects of maths that we will focus on this half term are: place value, addition and subtraction, length and perimeter, statistics and multiplication and division facts for the 3 times table. Things that you could practice at home are: telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes (analogue clock); addition and subtraction facts (number bonds) and multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

Some useful resources are:

<https://ttrockstars.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/ordering-and-sequencing-numbers>

Science – This half term we will be exploring forces and magnets. We will explore what a force is and how different surfaces can affect movement. We will also be consolidating our learning of magnetic materials, extending this to investigate magnet strength and finding a fair way to compare different magnets. Finally, we will be investigating how magnets are useful in everyday items and creating our own magnetic game.

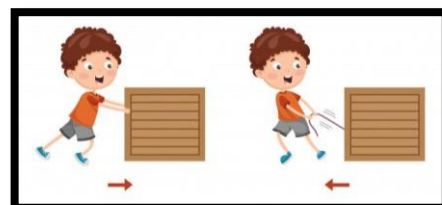
Some useful resources are:

<https://www.scienceandindustrymuseum.org.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zyttyrd>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zk9rkqt>

<https://www.educationquizzes.com/ks2/science/magnets/>



Computing – During this half term we will be learning about 'Networks and the Internet'. This includes exploring a file's journey to another device, a website's journey (through role play), exploring the role of routers and exploring examples of real-world networks.

Religious Education – In R.E, the children will be looking at the religion of Christianity and the key question: How and why have some people served God? Key learning will include exploring qualities of good leader / a role model, investigating stories of prophets from the Bible, to understand the term 'vocation' and to reflect on who is a good role model to us.

Design Technology – This half term our focus is Food Technology. We will be designing, making and evaluating some balanced snacks to encourage healthy eating for children. We will be learning about the eatwell plate and simple cooking techniques including using the claw technique, peeling vegetables, scraping out a bowl with a spatula and shelling a hardboiled egg.

Music – This term our musical learning will be on the theme mountains. We will explore how music can tell stories and listen to music to consider the narrative it could represent. We will create a soundscape using percussion instruments and lead up to creating compositions to accompany an animation. 🎵

Physical Education – Dusky Owls have P.E on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Thursday, we will be focusing on athletics skills and on Tuesdays we will be focusing on net and wall skills, including different types of throws.

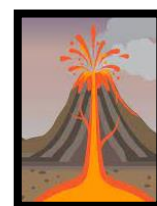
Geography – Our topic is 'Extreme Earth' and will focus on volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis. This includes exploring how these events occur, the human and physical features found at these locations, exploring how they affect people's lives, describing types of settlements and land use and extending our map knowledge as we locate specific regions. We will also be having an exciting volcano workshop in school – separate letter to follow.

Some useful resources are:

<https://www.google.co.uk/earth>

Escape from Pompei by Christina Balit

The Pebble in My Pocket by Meredith Hooper and Chris Coady



THINGS TO REMEMBER

PE Days: We will be doing PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays. PE kits should stay in school all week.

Home Learning: Home learning will be sent home on a Tuesday and should be completed for the following Monday. This will include weekly spellings and times table / number bond activities (this may be online).

Reading: Your child should read and discuss their 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. Please ensure home reading records and books are in school daily.