



## Gisburn Road Community Primary School



Autumn Term 2 – November to December 2023



### WELCOME BACK BURROWING OWLS



We hope that you had a good break and are ready for the run up to Christmas. You have all really impressed us in this first term, from creating amazing Paddington adventure stories, to creative and expressive collage in art. Not to mention those explosive volcanoes for home learning! I can't wait to begin our new learning this half term and am really excited for our trip to Stump Cross Caverns (Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November). ☺ 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>

Please feel free to ring at any time, or have a chat before or after school, to discuss your child's progress or just to say hello; it is always nice to catch up with parents and carers. For any urgent / important information, please contact the school office on 812287 or catch us in the yard. Remember to keep up to date with our school FaceBook page and the class page on the website.

*Mrs Fullalove, Miss Waterworth and Mrs Rishworth*

**PSHE** – Here is what your child will be learning about this half term:

- Know strategies to help keep themselves safe online
- Know that bullying and hurtful behaviour is unacceptable and the consequences for the people involved
- Know about bullying online, and the similarities and differences to face-to-face bullying
- Know what to do if they see bullying
- Recognise and model respectful behaviour
- Know the importance of self-respect and their right to be treated respectfully by others
- Show respect and courtesy in different cultures and in wider society



**English** – In English we will be exploring classical poetry and persuasion by using the key text 'The Spider and the Fly' by Mary Howitt, illustrated by Tony DiTerlizzi. This will include some performance poetry (including learning sections by heart) and several writing opportunities, including writing in role, making inferences, writing persuasive adverts and using figurative writing with a focus on vocabulary.

In our second unit, we will be focusing on folk tales, with our class text being 'The Tin Forest' by Helen Ward, which can be viewed using the QR code. After exploring the key features, vocabulary and prepositions, we will then be writing our own folk tale base on the structure from the text.



In our final unit, we will be looking at recounts in the form of diary entries. We will be reading a range of diary entries in school, including extracts from 'The Diary of a Killer Cat' by Anne Fine and 'The Diary of a Wimpy Kid' by Jeff Kinney. We will then be writing our own diary entries, in role as a character and using ideas from our own experiences.

**Mathematics** – The key aspects of maths that we will focus on this half term are: counting sequences and multiplication facts; written and mental multiplication; written and mental division; time and 3-D shape. Things that you could practice at home are: telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes; addition and subtraction facts (number bonds) and multiplication and division facts for the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables. We will be focusing on our 4 times table soon!

**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 rocks and fossils. This includes our exciting trip to Stump Cross Caverns, with a cave tour and a fossil quiz. Learning will also continue at school, including a focus on comparing and grouping rocks based on their physical properties; discussing how fossils are formed and recognising that soils are made from rocks and organic matter. I am particularly looking forward to learning about soils through creating an edible 'dirt pudding'! ☺

**Some useful resources are:**

<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/>

<https://kidsloverocks.com/>

<https://www.livescience.com/>

'Everybody Needs a Rock' by Byrd Baylor



**Computing** – During this half term we will be learning about programming using the computer-based application 'Scratch' (this can be accessed at home for free). We will be carrying out an informative cycle of predict → test → review, learning to use repetition or loops and building upon skills to program an animation, game or story. <https://scratch.mit.edu/>

**Religious Education** – In R.E, the children will be looking at the religion of Islam and the key question: Why is the Prophet Muhammed an example for Muslims? Key learning will include what makes a good role model; understanding the importance of the Prophet Muhammed for the Islamic community and giving reasons for the Islamic practice of Zakat.



**Design and Technology** – This half term our focus is levers and linkages. We will begin by investigating and analysing a range of existing products with lever and linkage mechanisms. We will explore these mechanisms and produce a plan for a mechanical card. We will then develop our ideas through creating a prototype, before making and evaluating our final product.

**Physical Education** – Congo Bay Owls have P.E. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Tuesdays, we will be focusing on invasion games, including rugby skills. On Thursdays, we will be focusing on Gymnastics, including balances and travelling.

**History** – As Historians we will be exploring Ancient Britain, focusing on the Stone Age and the key question: What was 'new' about the New Stone Age? We will have an artefact box arriving at school for us to explore to help us discover more about this period and will be focusing on chronology, using different sources and places of interest, such as Skara Brae and Stonehenge.



**Some useful resources are:**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z82hsbk>

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/>

### **THINGS TO REMEMBER**

**PE Days:** We will be doing PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Where possible, Tuesdays PE sessions will be outdoors and children need trainers and a warm outdoor kit (any tracksuit). 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 practice (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.