



## Gisburn Road Community Primary School Autumn Term 2 – October to December 2023



### WELCOME BACK

We hope that you and your families are all well and that you have had a relaxing break and are now ready for the run up to Christmas. We have had a good start to Year 4; the children have adapted well to our routines and shown lots of enthusiasm for our learning. They have so much knowledge about the Loch Ness monster and know all about the Ancient Egyptians- they have amazed me with their facts!

Remember to keep up to date with our school Facebook page and the class page on the website. 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 Whittaker, Miss Pearson and Mr Wood

**PSHE** – As of September 2020, this is now a statutory subject for all Primary and Secondary Schools. Here at GRCPS we have always taught PSHE on our timetable. We are now following the PSHE Association's scheme of work for PSHE. Our Governing Body have made the decision that Sex Education will be taught in Year 6. **This is a non- statutory part of the curriculum and parents can choose to 'opt out' of this section of the curriculum.** On our newsletters we will inform you what is coming up each half term so you are aware and Mrs Toor will send a consent letter to parents at the appropriate time.

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

- to develop strategies to respond to hurtful behaviour (including online)
- to learn about why someone may behave differently online and strategies to recognise risks
- how to report concerns about someone's behaviour online
- when to keep something confidential and when it is right to share a secret
- how to recognise pressure from others to do something that makes them feel uncomfortable and strategies to manage this
- to respect the differences and similarities between people

**English** – During this half term we will be studying the text Rumaysa based on famous fairy tales. We will look at what a good fairy tale needs and then do an in-depth study of different tales concentrating on Rumaysa. We will compare and contrast them and identify key vocabulary, characters and plot structure. We will then write our own based on our reading and analysing. During this unit we will also incorporate a poetry unit.



**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. ☺ This half term, we will focus on learning our X9 and X11s. Our maths lessons will begin by focusing on multiplication and division and we will be developing our mental and written strategies. We will then develop our knowledge of telling the time using analogue clocks and then learn how to use 24-hour time. Our final topic is 3D shape, where we will be investigating prisms and pyramids.

**Science** –This half term we will be learning about electricity. We will learn about common appliances that work using electricity and about the different types of electricity (mains and battery). We will then learn how to construct a simple electrical circuit and to name the components. We will investigate how to make a switch to open and close a circuit and predict what will happen if we include a switch in a circuit. This will lead us to test a range of materials to classify them as electrical conductors or insulators. Our science skills and knowledge will then be applied to our DT work later in the half term.



**Computing** – This half term we will be using ‘Scratch’ to create a simple script. We will understand how a scratch game works and focus on variables and how to change them.



**Religious Education** – In R.E, the children will be looking at the religion Christianity. We will be finding out about people in authority before we look at the structure and organisation of the Bible. We will learn about the Old and New testaments and look at the different types of writing within the different books in the Bible. Once we have an understanding of how the Bible is written, we will consider how Christians use it in their lives for guidance, support and inspiration.

**DT-** Our DT work will link closely with our electrical systems used in torches, lights and science knowledge, we will learn specific working circuit and making a simple switch. make a torch. Throughout our work, we will work where necessary.



science work on electricity. We will look at simple lamps using existing products. From our research and our skills to use within our product, including constructing a Our research and skills will then be used to design and develop our skills of evaluating our work, adapting our

**History-** Our history topic for this half term is one that is close to home! We will be looking at the history of transport in Barnoldswick with a key focus on the canal and railway station. It would be great if any families have any memories, maps, photographs etc. that would be useful for us during this topic. Especially if there are any family members who can remember the railway station. Please let us know (on the yard, or by email) if you would be able to come in to talk to the class. Throughout the topic, we will be focusing on chronology and look at different sources to find out about Barnoldswick in the past.



**Physical Education** – During this half term, the children will have two PE lessons each week. We will be focusing on dance and gymnastics. In our gymnastics lessons, we will be developing our skills of travelling, rolling and balancing, before creating and demonstrating a sequence of moves. Our dance lessons will link to our science topic of electricity. We will practise different ways of moving both individually and with others. Our final outcome will be to create a dance with a partner based on the theme of ‘clean electricity’.

### **THINGS TO REMEMBER**

- **PE DAYS** : Sooty Owls have P.E on Wednesday and Friday. 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 **essential** that your child reads every day in Year 4. 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.** November is Non Fiction month- it would be great to encourage your child to read a selection of non fiction texts e.g. instructions, explanations, newspapers and magazine articles.

