



## Gisburn Road Community Primary School Autumn Term 2 – November to December 2022



### WELCOME BACK TO SOOTY OWLS

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 particularly enjoyed our work on the Loch Ness monster and our local history topic and produced some great work, their books look beautiful.

Remember to keep up to date with our school Facebook page and the class page on the website. You can send children's Home Learning via the cohort e-mail address of [sootyowls@gisburnroad.com](mailto:sootyowls@gisburnroad.com). Whilst school is open and I am in class teaching, I will respond to any emails on **Tuesdays**. 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 Holman and Mrs 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** – In English this half term, we shall be listening to, reading and discussing 'Until I Met Dudley' as we develop our explanation writing skills. We shall be identifying, analysing and discussing the structure of explanation texts. The children will be using what they have learned to write their own explanation text based on a film clip 'The Snoozatron'. Following this, we will be listening to, reading and discussing the themes within 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'. We will be identifying examples of language choices to create effects within the text such as noun phrases and similes. We will then apply what we have learned to write our own fantasy story.

**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** – Our Computing topic is 'Skills Showcase: HMTL'. In our lessons, we will learn how to change the HTML and CSS to alter the appearance of an object on the web. We will also be looking at complex components of a web page and discover how to alter key elements on a webpage including text and images.

**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 science work on electricity. We will look at simple electrical systems used in torches, lights and lamps using existing products. From our research and our science knowledge, we will learn specific skills to use within our product, including constructing a working circuit and making a simple switch. Our research and skills will then be used to design and make a torch. Throughout our work, we will develop our skills of evaluating our work, adapting our work where necessary.

**History-** During this half term, we will be going back in time to study ancient civilisations. We will compare different civilisations before focusing on Ancient Egypt. Throughout our topic, we will use enquiry skills to research how civilisations develop and the impact of the different civilisations on our lives today. On our trip to Blackburn Museum we will look at the daily lives of the Ancient Egyptians, we will then investigate the mummification process the roles if different Gods and purpose of the pyramids. Finally, we will look at two significant people; Howard Carter and Tutankhamun.

**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'.

**Music-** Our music lessons will continue to focus on the skill of structure. Firstly, we will investigate how to use paper to make different sounds and then create a repeated pattern using these. We will then use junk materials to make simple instruments to improvise a piece of music. Finally, we will perform bhangra style chants and rhythms.

### **THINGS TO REMEMBER**

#### **Diary Dates:**

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November- Parents' Evenings  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November- Children in Need- Wear your PJs or Pudsey themed merchandise  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Year 4 Class Trip to Blackburn Museum  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December- Indoor Christmas Market (6:00-8:30pm) - Everyone welcome!  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December- Christmas Jumper Day  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Film Cinema Night  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2:00pm - school closes for Christmas holiday

- **PE DAYS** : Sooty Owls have P.E on Tuesday and Wednesday. 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.

