Gisburn Road Community Primary School
Autumn Term 1- September to October 2026

Laughing Owls – Welcome to Year 5

We hope that you have had a fantastic summer break and made lots of memories- the weather has certainly played its part! We hope your child is ready for a new school year in upper Key stage 2. The year should be full of exciting learning experiences, including a trip to an art gallery and our Robinwood residential.

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 laughingowls@gisburnroad.com. If you would like to pass on any urgent information, we will be on the yard each evening but you can also contact the office on 812287; Mrs Barwell will pass on any important information.

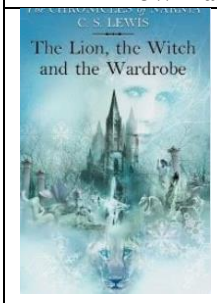
Mrs Bradley and Mrs Mitchell

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.

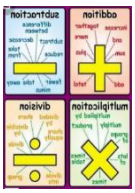
The Autumn term focuses on:

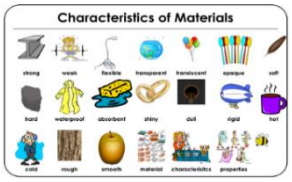
- What our brain looks like and how it helps us make decisions
- The Amygdala, which causes Flight, Fight and Freeze
- Neuroplasticity - How our brain responds and works when we learn something new
- How Happy breathing techniques help to calm



English - In English this half term we will be focusing on the text 'The Lion, the Witch and the wardrobe' by C.S.Lewis. During the 'creating interest' part of the narrative unit, children will study evacuation during World War II. Before the 'gathering content' section of the narrative unit, children will have the opportunity to create non-chronological reports based on mythical creatures. After that, children will continue to gather content in order to plan and write an extended narrative based around The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe. The mythical creatures created within the non-chronological report section of this publication will feature as central characters within the children's narrative stories

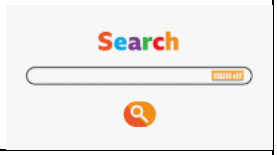
Mathematics – This half term we will be working on the place value of numbers up to 10,000 and up to 100,000 and numbers including decimals. We will be revising and extending our methods for addition and subtraction. We will know the names of different angles and begin to learn how to measure them. We are also going to be studying different measure in geometry and how to calculate the perimeter of a rectilinear shape.



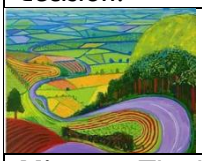


Science – This half term is all about materials and their properties. We will be identifying the properties the materials have and the purpose of those materials. We will think about the suitability of different materials for different jobs. We will look at thermal insulators and carry out investigations and experiments.

Computing – Computing systems and networks: search engines.
We will investigate how search engines work and develop effective searching skills to find relevant and accurate information online.



Religious Education – The focus this half term is Christianity. We will focus on morals and stories that guide Christians through their life. Our focus question is - 'Why is it sometimes hard to make the right decision?'



Art- We will be looking at the work of David Hockney, including a visit to Salts Mill. We will be looking at the techniques he used in his work, including his use of colour and texture. We will practise our colour mixing skills and use of complementray colours to recreate a landscape in his style.

History- This half term we will be studying the Anglo Saxons. We will be finding out who the Anglo-Saxons were, where they came from and why. We will use chronology and enquiry skills throughout the unit. Our enquiry focus question is 'What can we learn about the Anglo Saxons from the discoveries at Sutton Hoo?' We will take on the role of archaeologists to look at a variety of sources and artefacts found at Sutton Hoo then communicate our findings using written and oral outcomes.

Physical Education – During this half term, the children will have PE on a Monday and a Wednesday. On Mondays, we will be practising our skills to play net and wall games and on Wednesdays we will be developing our gymnastic skills. **The children will need both indoor and outdoor PE kits, as we will be trying to get outside as much as possible for our Monday lesson.**

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **PE DAYS : Monday** and **Wednesday** this half term. Children will need both indoor and outdoor kits in school.
- **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 still vital that your child reads every day in Year 5. By reading regularly, your child will develop fluency and comprehension skills and improve their writing skills. It would be great if you could encourage your child to read a selection of non fiction texts e.g. instructions, explanations, newspapers and magazine articles as well as fiction.