



Gisburn Road Community Primary School Spring Term 2- February to March 2024



WELCOME BACK TO PYGMY OWLS

Welcome back to school after the half term. We hope that you've all had a good break. We can't believe that half of the year has already gone! This half term will be another busy one for our Year 6s.

Remember to keep up to date with our school Facebook page, Twitter and the class page on the website. You can send children's home learning via the cohort e-mail address of pygmyowls@gisburnroad.com. I will respond to any emails on Mondays. 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 Bradley 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 Bradley will send a consent letter to parents at the appropriate time.

Here is what your child will be learning about this half term-Living in the wider world

- how companies encourage customers to buy things and why it is important to be a critical consumer
- how having or not having money can impact on a person's emotions, health and wellbeing
- about common risks associated with money, including debt, fraud and gambling
- about sharing things online, including rules and laws relating to this
- how to recognise what is appropriate to share online
- how to report inappropriate online content or contact



English – In English this half term, we will be looking at explanation texts. We will read a selection of texts linked to our history and science topics. As we read, we will scan for key information and discuss what we have read. We will then compare our texts to identify the features of this genre. Our final written outcome will be 'How does evidence assist in solving a crime?' Our narrative unit is based on detective stories. We will read several short stories, focusing on how the author develops the story and how they create a detective character. Finally, we will write our own detective story based on 'The case of the missing porridge'.

Mathematics – During this half term, we will be focusing on several different areas of maths in the run up to our End of Key Stage 2 SATs. 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. 😊

Science – This half term we will be learning about living things and classification. We will build on our work in Year 4 and investigate how animals and plants are classified by their observable features. We will learn about the classification system developed by Carl Linnaeus. Finally, we will be investigating micro-organisms, including a mouldy bread experiment!



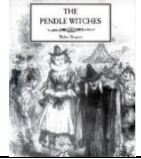
Computing – Our Computing topic for this half term will continue to look at Big Data. We will be learning about how data can be safely transferred and look at the difference between mobile and wireless data and how 'big data' is used to improve city life.

Religious Education – In R.E, the children will be focusing on Christianity. Our key enquiry question is "Why do Christians believe that Good Friday is good?" In this topic, we will investigate Christian beliefs about the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Art- Our art topic for this half term is 'Portraits'. We will be looking at work from a selection of artists including Frida Kahlo and Leonardo da Vinci. In this unit, we will study the composition of different portraits and develop our painting skills before we produce a self-portrait.



History- We will be continuing to look at the theme of 'crime and punishment'. We will look at how crime and punishment has changed in Lancashire with a focus on a break in at Burnley Football club. We will also be looking at the link between poverty and crime. We will conclude our work with a study of the Pendle Witches.



Physical Education – During this half term, the children will have two PE lessons each week (Mondays and Wednesdays). In our first unit, we will be looking at developing our skills in a range of striking and fielding games and we will also develop our understanding of good teamwork. Our second lesson will continue to improve our dance skills to create and perform sequences.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **PE days :** Screech Owls have P.E on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays**. 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 still vital that your child reads every day in Year 6. 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. It would be great to encourage your child to read a selection of non fiction texts e.g. instructions, explanations, newspapers and magazine articles as well as fiction.
- **KS2 SATS** will be held from Monday **13th May to Thursday 16th May**.
- **KS2 SATS meeting:** We will be holding a meeting on **Tuesday 5th March at 5:00pm** in Year 6, for those parents who wish to know more information about how we are preparing for the tests and how you can best support your child at home.

