



Gisburn Road Community Primary School Autumn Term 1 – September to October 2025



WELCOME TO BURROWING OWLS

We hope that you and your families are all well and that you have had a lovely break over the summer despite some questionable weather! We are very excited to be back in school and to be teaching Burrowing Owls. Year 6 is a very busy year, which we hope, will be fun and full of memories.

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 burrowingowls@gisburnroad.com. I will respond to any emails on Wednesdays. 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, Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. Wood

PSHE – We will again be using My Happy Mind this year as part of our PSHE teaching. In the first half term, our unit is 'Meet Your Mind'. This module is focused on giving children a foundational knowledge of the brain and teaching them how they can look after their minds to be at their very best.



English – In English this half term, our work will be focused on 'The Nowhere Emporium' by Ross MacKenzie. We will firstly investigate how the author has developed the setting and characters within the text. We will also look at the use of different sentence structures before we write a narrative based on the plot. In our second unit, we will read a variety of non-fiction texts based on the circus. We will identify the features of discussions and reports before writing a magazine article.



Mathematics – During this half term, we will be focusing on place value and arithmetic. Firstly, we will write, partition, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000. Then we will develop our rounding skills and our understanding of negative numbers. Next, we will practise a range of mental and written strategies to add and subtract numbers, followed by multiplication and division strategies. We will investigate common factors, multiples, primes, square and cube numbers.

Science – This half term we will be learning about 'evolution and inheritance'. Our work will begin by investigating what fossils can tell us about the plants and animals that lived in the past. We will then look at inheritance and how living things produce offspring of the same kind. Finally, we will find out how plants and animals are adapted to survive in their natural environment.



Computing – During this half term, we will be learning about computing systems and networks. Firstly, we will look at the history of computers and how they have evolved over time. We will then develop our understanding of the need for secure passwords and how to create them.

Religious Education – In R.E, the children will be looking at the key question of 'Is life like a journey?' throughout the year. Our first topic of the year is Christianity. We will explore what it is that Christians believe gives their lives purpose and meaning.

DT- We will be looking at textiles in this half term. Firstly we will look at the designers Vivienne Westwood and Coco Chanel and discuss their signature styles. Next, we will be looking at examples of waistcoats and how these are made. We will then design and make our own waistcoat in the style of either Coco Chanel or Vivienne Westwood. Our topic will conclude with our very own cat-walk!



Geography- In Geography, our theme is 'Where in the World'. We will use a range of maps and atlases to investigate lines of latitude and longitude and look at different climates and biomes. Next, we will research countries that are located in different continents and produce an infographic based on our findings.



Physical Education – In this first half term, the children will have two PE lessons. On Tuesdays, we will be swimming and on Wednesdays, the children will develop their athletics skills.



Music- Our music lessons will focus on dynamics, pitch and texture. We will listen to and evaluate a classical piece of music, Fingal's Cave. We will then work in small groups to improvise our own music, including taking the role of conductor.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **PE DAYS :** Burrowing Owls have P.E on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please ensure your child has both their indoor and outdoor PE kit in school for our Wednesday lesson. On Tuesdays, your child will need their swimming kit.
- **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 practise 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.

