



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



### PYGMY OWLS

We hope that you and your families are all well and that you have had a relaxing break, despite some questionable weather and are now ready for the run up to Christmas. Our first half term was a very busy one and we are pleased with how well the children have settled into Year 6- they have been enthusiastic in all of our learning.

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 [screechowls@gisburnroad.com](mailto:screechowls@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- safe relationships and respecting ourselves and others

- about seeking and giving permission (consent) in different situations
- how to recognise pressure from others to do something unsafe or that makes them feel uncomfortable and strategies for managing this
- where to get advice and report concerns if worried about their own or someone else's personal safety (including online)
- that personal behaviour can affect other people; to recognise and model respectful behaviour online
- to recognise the importance of self-respect and how this can affect their thoughts and feelings about themselves

**English** – In English this half term, our first unit will focus on non-fiction texts as part of Non-Fiction November. We will read examples of biographies and identify how these are written. Our final outcome is to write a biography of P T Barnum. Our narrative unit is based on classic texts. We will discuss what makes a book a classic before we study 'The Wizard of Oz' in detail. As we read, we will investigate how writers develop their characters and collect examples of archaic language. We will use what we learn to write a new chapter for the book. Once we have seen the performance of 'The Wizard of Oz' at Liverpool, we will be writing a review of the musical.



**Mathematics** – During this half term, we will be focusing on developing our strategies to calculate both mentally and using written methods. We will be looking at fractions including: comparing and ordering; adding and subtracting fractions; finding fractions of amounts and finally multiplication and division.

**Science** – This half term we will be learning about 'light'. Firstly, we will investigate how light travels and how reflection helps to see behind us. We will learn about how we see things and finally we will investigate how shadows are formed before we plan a fair test investigation to change shadows.



**Computing** – During this half term, we will begin by focusing on online safety. In our lessons, we will learn how to navigate the internet in an informed, safe and respectful way. Then we will work on coding. In this unit we will investigate how we can write algorithms for a purpose. We will be de-bugging to improve our programs using Logo and Python.

**Religious Education** – In R.E, the children will be looking at the key question of 'Is life like a journey?' throughout the year. Our next topic is Hinduism. We will think about how people live their lives in a certain way and learn about the milestones of a Hindu's life.

**Art-** We will be continuing to look at 'architecture' throughout this half term. We will be looking at the work of famous artists including Antonio Gaudi and Norman Foster and will use a variety of materials to produce 3D work based on architecture.

**Geography-** In Geography, our theme is 'North America. We will use a range of maps and atlases to investigate the countries within the continent. Next, we will investigate and compare the different climates that are found across North America. We will then look at some of the most notable physical and human features and write a leaflet to persuade people why they should visit.



**Physical Education** – In this half term, the children will have two PE lessons. Our first lesson is gymnastics. In our lessons we will focus on creating sequences which feature different types of balances. Our second weekly lesson is net and wall games. We will develop our forehand and backhand skills before playing tennis.



**Music-** During this half term our topic is 'Film music'. In our lessons we will identify how different styles of music contribute to the feel of a film. Then we will use our body, voice and instruments to create sounds to represent a given theme and finally create a musical score to represent a composition.

### **THINGS TO REMEMBER**

- **PE DAYS :** Pygmy Owls have P.E on Mondays and Tuesdays. Please ensure your child has both their indoor and outdoor PE kit in school for our lessons.
- **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.

