



# Gilsland C of E Primary School



## Junior Class Newsletter November 2008

Dear Parents,

"Hello" and welcome back. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday. The children look rested and seem glad to be back in school with their friends. This half-term, all the juniors will be learning to play the recorder and I am confident that we will be showcasing our skills in our Christmas production in school later this term. Each child has been given a recorder which they have been asked to keep in school. I hope to "top up" the practice with a few lunchtime sessions. If your child has a recorder at home, all the better. They will be able to "fine tune" their skills after school. I would like to say a huge "well done" to Jason Mitchell for a super report on the Harvest Festival in the November issue of the Gilsland magazine. Also I would like to thank both Jason Mitchell and Ethan Howe for their help organising and running the healthy Tuck shop. It's proving very successful with all the children.



### REMEMBER

**P.E kit is needed on a  
MONDAY and FRIDAY**



During the year I will be sending out homework in various subjects and I would like to ask for your help to work with and encourage your child to complete their work and hand it in on time. Reading will be given each night, weekly spellings are given out on Wednesday for a spelling test the following Wednesday. Literacy and Numeracy homework is given each Friday to be returned by the following Friday.

Thank you for supporting your child with their reading challenge over the half term holiday. I was delighted that almost all of the children had read an entire book in one week. And enjoyed it!

Please do feel free to call in and see me if you have any concerns or queries over the next half term regarding your child or just come in to say 'hello' anyway.

Do let us know if you are able to come into school to help with anything relating to our topic or if you have a skill you could share with the children. Any parent who is able to come into school early (8.15am) is welcome to share a reading book with their child in the classroom or help research information for the class topic on the internet.



Out topic for this half term will be "Pack up your Troubles" We will be researching what life was like for children during World War 2 through stories, songs, pictures, artefacts and music.

In science we will be investigating how to separate solids from liquids and how circuits and conductors work. We may even make our own Christmas tree lights!

In Literacy we will be following the Literacy Strategy guidance and will be focusing on report writing, letter writing and recount. The children will have the opportunity to develop their writing skills through the bi-weekly "Big Write" sessions. In Numeracy we will be focusing on number work, learning and revising our times tables. We will also look how to understand and solve multi-step word problems.

In R.E we will understand why people make journeys and pilgrimages. We will be re-visiting the Christmas story with an emphasis on how people from other cultures celebrate special occasions.

In D.T we will be making an Anderson shelter so keep hold of any corrugated card and bit of sponge!!

Do call to see me if you would like to know about some of the topics in greater detail.

We will have 2 P.E lessons each week. One of those will be on a Monday where we will be practising striking and fielding skills in rounders. The other is on a Friday and will be outdoor games.

