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Cleves Cross Primary and
Nursery School
Ferryhill
County Durham
DL17 8QY



Dear Parents,

Autumn Term 2020- Space the Final Frontier!

It is finally the start of another academic year at Cleves Cross! The last five months have certainly been a challenge for us all and I for one am pleased to be returning to some sort of normality. We have lots of exciting activities planned over the course of the Autumn term and we look forward to working with your children again. In Autumn 1 we have a scientific focus and we will be working on the theme of Space – The Final Frontier.

In **Science**, we will explain how we know the Sun, Earth and Moon are spherical, name and describe features of the planets and order them in our solar system. We will explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky. Additionally, we will find out about night and day in different parts of the Earth. And much more!

In **English** we will use the book ‘The Nowhere Emporium’ to engage the children in imaginary worlds. Through this text and within our topic, we will have the opportunity to write in many genres including: setting and character descriptions, letters, diaries, newspaper reports, explanations, and non-chronological reports. Also, we will use the theme of space travel to develop our understanding of biographies –focusing on Margaret Hamilton.

In **Maths**, a large focus of our maths lessons will be on place value-knowing what digits represent in numbers up to one million, rounding numbers to 10, 100 and 1000. We will develop and use addition and subtraction strategies (mental and written methods) and we will focus on developing our reasoning and problem-solving skills. Please encourage rehearsal of times tables and division facts for our Nifty 50 challenge each Monday.

In **Art**, we will focus on the work of the space artist Peter Thorpe and produce our own work in his style, using an abstract background and a strong, solid foreground.

In **ICT and Computing**, Children will explore the need for safety and learn about appropriate use of social media. Building on from the previous term’s work in Y4, children will continue to investigate coding using Scratch software and will learn how to change effects e.g. background and sprite.





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In **MFL**, we will continue to develop our Spanish speaking, reading and writing. We will learn numbers 1-31, months, dates, asking for and giving birthday, language to do with birthday celebrations and some more Christmas vocabulary!

PSHCE - Our school SEAL unit for this half term is 'New Beginnings'. Children will talk and write about their opinions, and explain their views, on issues that affect themselves and society.

RE – We will be learning about Judaism. Children will find out why Moses is important to the Jews and why Jewish people visit the synagogue.

PE – Our focus for PE sessions this half term is gymnastics and grid rugby. We are timetabled for a Tuesday and Friday afternoon. Please ensure your child has the appropriate kit for PE. This term, children are to arrive at school in their PE kit on the timetabled days.

Homework - Homework this year will be sent out on a Friday and should be completed before the following Tuesday. The bulk of homework this year will be set online.

Spellings - Spellings will be set on a Monday with a test on the Friday. Alongside weekly spellings, the children should continue to learn the year $\frac{3}{4}$ word lists. Assessment of word lists will be ongoing throughout the year. Should the children complete the year $\frac{3}{4}$ word list, then they should move onto the year 5/6-word list.

Reading - At Cleves Cross, we aim to develop a love of reading in your children. With that in mind, it is important that you hear your child read at least three times per week. Please complete the reading record each time you hear them read. Reading records will be checked and signed off by myself on a Friday.

If you would like to discuss any aspects of the curriculum further, please contact us and I would be happy to give you further information. The class email is y5cleves@cclt.education

Yours sincerely

Mr Donohue and Mrs McAuley

Year 5 Teacher

