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



Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the half-term holiday! I hope that you have had a lovely week off and are looking forward to all of the wonderful activities in the lead up to Christmas! We will be completing some lovely art and craft activities, as well as participating in some Year 3 traditions - hot chocolate and marshmallows may be involved! But, before we get to that, we will need to work really hard in all of the other areas of the curriculum.

This half-term we will be continuing our work based on the History Topic - The Stone Age to Iron Age. As in the previous half term a lot of subjects will be linked to this topic, but some are not linked. Therefore, RE, Music and Spanish will continue to be taught discretely.

Maths

This half-term, we will be continuing to develop our understanding of addition and subtraction as well as our knowledge of the rules of multiplication and division. Children will continue looking at number bonds to 10, 20 and 100 and how they can help us with more complex calculations. We will be working hard on mastering our times tables. It is extremely important that children practise regularly. Children will continue have access to Conquer Maths for homework and Times Table Rockstars for practice – all of which are linked on their TEAMS account.

English

For our English this term, we will be looking at a range of texts including visual media. Reading the text 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth' helps build understanding of imperative verbs and prepositions (place and time). Following on from this, we will be using an animated film as inspiration for some writing. 'The Croods' is an excellent film to use based in the Stone Age period. We will be creating our very own adventure story and characters as well as setting descriptions and diary entries. We love this topic and I'm sure the children do too!

Reading is obviously important, and children will be encouraged to read a range of different texts, not just their reading book. Remember that any reading that is completed at home can be commented on in their reading diary. We will be completing guided reading sessions in class this half-term to develop inference and questioning skills. Just a reminder that in the back of children's school reading books there are some questions that you may like to ask the children once they have completed their book to reflect on the book and its content.

Science

Our Science topic this term is 'Animals including Humans', linking nicely with our History work. Children will look at a healthy diet and why being healthy is important. We will focus on the structure and purpose of skeletons and how muscles work. We will then lead on to the link between animals now, and animals during the Stone Age. Additionally, we will be delving into our wildlife garden at school and hunting out some animals that we can explore.

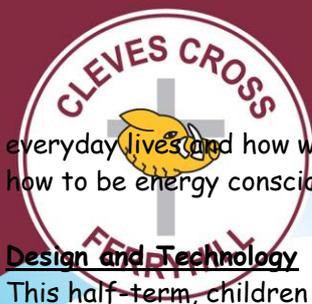
History

Within History, children will continue learning about the changes in Britain from the Stone Age to Iron Age. We will now move on to looking at how the discovery of metal changed the way people lived and how this impacted history. Children will have the opportunity to develop their research skills and identify how we can interpret the past in different ways.

Geography

This term, we will be learning about Sustainability. This is a very important topic to Cleves Cross as we are proud to be an eco-school. We will be looking at what it means to be sustainable focussing on the use of plastic in our





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everyday lives and how we can reduce single use plastic use. We will be learning about different energy uses and how to be energy conscious.

Design and Technology

This half-term, children will have the opportunity to design and create a pop-up Christmas card. Children will learn about the different processes involved in designing, making and evaluating their product. It will give children the opportunity to develop their cutting and measuring skills and allow them to develop their creativity and problem-solving skills.



PE

PE will be on a **Monday** this half term. Children will be required to arrive in school in their outdoor PE kit on this day. This half term we will be completing work with a coach based on Outdoor Adventure. Children will develop their understanding of map reading, orienteering and direction. Children will also have the opportunity to develop collaborative skills – working as a team to reach a desired goal.

Computing

As I am sure you are aware, computing is a huge focus for us at Cleves Cross and we sincerely thank you for your support. Children will be using computers across a variety of subjects this half term. We will continue to develop our computing skills including typing, inserting media, creating presentations and editing a document. Children will begin to look at iMovie, using editing software, settings, animation, sound effects and transitions to create their own documentary. We look forward to showing you their results!

RE

Children enjoyed learning about Hinduism and we will be carrying on with RE - looking at Christianity. This is a perfect time of year to look at the Christian religion. In the lead up to Christmas, we will focus on Advent and why this is important to Christianity.

PSHCE

This half-term's theme is *Getting on and Falling out*. Children will have the opportunity to explore what makes a good friend and how it is sometimes important to see things from another person's point of view. We will complete a number of activities that look at their thoughts and feelings and how they can identify how themselves and others are feeling.

Spanish

In Spanish, we will be learning (and using) numbers to twenty, practising using colours in descriptive phrases and developing our understanding of nouns by learning the names of items in our pencil cases.

As you can see, we have lots of fun and exciting learning to fit in this half-term. We thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything, please don't hesitate to contact us on the class email address y3cleves@cclt.education.

Yours Sincerely

The Year 3 Team

(Mrs Atkinson, Miss Dalglish, Mrs. Cross and Mrs Whitaker)

