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



Year 2 Autumn 2 2020

Dear Parents,

Firstly, can I thank you for the support you have shown throughout these difficult, strange times. I am sure this half term will continue to challenge us but please keep checking the school app for any key information and also remember the class email is there if you have any queries/questions: y2cleves@cclt.education

Our topic of 'Amazing Animals' will continue for this half term as we move towards Christmas.

What are we going to be doing this half term?

English - We will be exploring poetry in our English sessions this half term and looking at repeating and rhyming poems inspired by 'Wings' by Pie Corbett and 'At the Zoo...' by William Thackeray. We will also read and perform one of my favourite poems - 'On the Ning Nang Nong'. After exploring the poems, we will get the opportunity to write some poetry of our own. After this, we will be reading 'The Diary of a Killer Cat' by Anne Fine and will explore characters, speech and story writing in more detail.

Maths - We will be covering a wide range of skills in maths and these will change regularly. Our focuses this half term will include: improving our understanding of money; becoming more familiar with multiplication and division problems; improving our times tables knowledge and interpret and design tally charts and simple tables. Children will be receiving a log in for 'Times Tables Rockstars' this half term. This is a really good website to practise times tables and children should try and go on as often as possible. If there are any problems with this, or home access is problematic, then do just let me know.

Science - So far, we have explored animals and their habitats in a lot of detail. This half term we will be looking at food chains and considering how the Earth is changing and what impact that is having on the animal kingdom.

PHSCE - Across the school, the SEAL framework continues to be used and the theme for this half term will be 'Getting on and falling out'. Children will discuss relationships and how their decisions can impact on other children's feelings and emotions.





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Computing – We will be using Beebots to introduce programming and coding to children. We will discuss how to use a set of code to control the Beebots and also think about how to debug any code that doesn't work in the right way.

R.E. – The main question for us to explore this half term is: 'Why is light so important at Christmas time?' We will read the Christmas story in detail and discuss the importance of this story for Christians. We will also be discussing the symbolism of a Christingle and will hopefully get the opportunity to make some of our own.

History – We will be thinking about holidays and how modern-day holidays compare to those that occurred in the past. We will look at a variety of evidence including: photos, stories and videos to find out information from long ago.

Music – In our music sessions, we will find the pulse of a new piece of music and also feel more confident to discuss how songs are similar and different. We will also use different musical instruments and compare tuned and un-tuned instruments in more detail.

P.E. – Our P.E. sessions will be on a Friday afternoon. Please make sure that the children have their kits in school with them from the start of term. The children require a t-shirt, shorts and trainers. To avoid any accidents, please ensure earrings are not worn on PE days. Our topic in PE this half term will be 'Bean Bag Throw' – a games unit where children work on their throwing accuracy.

The vast majority of homework is set online now to encourage the children to use online platforms more often and become more familiar with each of them. A weekly message will be shared on the school app to explain homework and this is usually set on Edshed, ActiveLearn or Microsoft Teams. All logins are in your child's reading diary.

Thank you for your support with reading at home. This is so important, and I appreciate your support in signing the children's diaries regularly. We should be aiming to read as often as possible. Children need to ensure that their reading books and diaries are in school every day and these will be changed at least once per week.

If you would like to discuss any aspects of the curriculum further, please do not hesitate to contact me at school or via the class email: y2cleves@cclt.education and I would be happy to give you further information.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Blood and Mrs Punshon
Year 2 Team

