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



Dear Parents,

### **Autumn Term 2021- Space the Final Frontier!**

It is finally the start of another academic year at Cleves Cross! The last year and a half 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 the Autumn term 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 ‘Cosmic’ to engage the children in our space topic. 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, persuasion 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 and 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 **Spanish**, we will continue to develop our Spanish speaking, reading and writing. We will consolidate numbers 1-10; learn up to ten colours and say how we are feeling.

**PSHE** - Our school unit for this half term is 'What makes up our identity?'. 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 athletics and grid rugby. We are timetabled for a Monday and Wednesday afternoon. Please ensure your child has the appropriate kit for PE and that any earrings are removed prior to the PE session.

**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.

**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](mailto:y5cleves@cclt.education)

Yours sincerely

Mr Donohue and Mrs Brown

Year 5 Team

