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



### Year 6 - Autumn 1a 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We would just like say a big welcome to all the children as they enter their final year at Cleves Cross. Fingers crossed for a more 'normal' school year this year with plenty of exciting things to look forward to.

Our topic for this half term is Ancient Greece and as you can see below, lots of our learning will be linked to this.

#### What are we going to be doing this half term?

In **English** this half term, we will be reading a range of biographies and autobiographies. We will use texts from Roald Dahl and Michael Morpurgo and the children will use their own experiences to write an autobiographical account. Some reading and written compositions will be linked to our topic through studying Greek myths and legends. In addition to this, we will continue with daily reading, comprehension activities, grammar and punctuation and consolidating spelling rules and patterns.

**Maths** - We have a wealth of objectives that need to be covered this term. Children will investigate the place value of larger numbers and need to be able to use formal written calculations for the four operations. There will be an emphasis on problem solving and maths investigations. The children will also have a weekly mental maths/ arithmetic test and focused times tables practice and tests. It is really important that the children spend time learning their multiplication tables and related division facts as these are key to much of the maths work that the children encounter every day.

**Science** - Biology: Living things and their habitats. We will be looking at the history of classification of living things from Aristotle to the present day. We will be studying the binomial system introduced by Linnaeus & the 7 levels of classification used today. We will also begin to understand why classification is important and use and create classification keys.

**History** - By its nature, our topic will focus heavily on historical learning and knowledge all about the Ancient Greeks. We will explore their achievements and discuss what influence they had on the western world. Whilst doing this, we will also consider what life may have been like for a child living in Ancient Greece too.

**ICT** - Our first theme for this half term will be all about staying safe online. Children will also improve their understanding of social media and how this can be used safely and responsibly. They will discuss digital friendships and the dangers of not always knowing who you are talking to.





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**RE** - What can we learn about religious diversity in our area? After exploring some different religions represented in Ferryhill, children will focus on the religion of Islam and what it might be like to live as a Muslim in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**PSHE** - How can the media influence different people? This links well with our work on digital literacy and staying safe online. Children will explore what media we can trust and also think about what media is suitable for children and what is not.

**Spanish** - Building on the Spanish children completed in Year 5, we will focus on colours, shapes and prepositions of place, which will be used creatively to describe the artwork of Miro.

**Music** - All the learning in this unit is focused around one song: Happy, a pop song by Pharrell Williams.

**Art** - Inspired by our History topic of Ancient Greece, children will research, design and create their own piece of clay pottery. Children will use a range of techniques and materials to enhance their work.

**PE** - Our PE session is on a Friday afternoon. The children require a t-shirt, shorts and trainers. We will also be taking advantage of the outdoor areas when the weather allows so please also send in tracksuit bottoms or leggings. PE kit should be brought into school on a Monday and returned home on a Friday. To avoid any accidents, please remove earrings on PE days. Our topics in PE this half term include 'Invasion Games' - a games unit where children use a variety of equipment to explore different styles of games and also an Athletics themed unit where children will build on the skills they learnt last year.

Homework is an essential part of Year 6 (as with every other year) and is a key part of learning independently and consolidating skills learnt in school. Completion and return of Reading (at least three times a week), Maths and English tasks will be essential this year, and we would like to thank you in advance for your continued support with helping your child to complete them. Homework will generally be given out on a Friday to be returned to school for the following Tuesday.

Maths homework will be set through conquer maths. Conquer maths is a website that children can use to carry out their own learning as well as completing set tasks. Children can continue to use Times Table Rockstars to help build their speed and agility. Children can also use other websites to help with basic number facts such as 'Hit the button' and Speed Challenge. English homework will be a range of reading/grammar and spelling activities and on occasions, those linked to the topic we are studying.

If you would like to discuss any aspects of the curriculum further, please do not hesitate to contact us at school or via the class email - [y6cleves@cclt.education](mailto:y6cleves@cclt.education).

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Claydon, Mr Blood and Mrs McAuley

