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



Autumn B 2021

Dear Parents,

Your children have settled back into school very well and they worked and played hard last half term.

We are continuing to try hard to get the balance right between catching up on any learning missed last year and developing and nurturing the children's personal and social development - which is particularly important in the current climate as well as learning the Year 1 curriculum too.

English

This year Phonics is a major part of the Year 1 Curriculum as we strive to ensure children become fluent and confident readers as early as possible and we try to make the most of every opportunity for reading that we can. Please can you ensure your child reads regularly at home and brings their reading books and reading diary into school every day - it makes such a difference to their progress. Please engage with online reading books too. If you would like any support and guidance, please just ask!

We will be exploring a range of fiction and non-fiction texts including Owl Babies, Handa's Surprise and Handa's Hen. We continue to practice and develop our letter formation and write sentences with a capital letter and full stop. We will be trying to use conjunctions such as 'and' and 'then'.

Mathematics

In maths we are working on addition and subtraction and also shape. We are sorting objects in different ways, counting objects, writing numerals correctly, finding one more and one less, comparing amounts, ordering objects and amounts, number bonds to ten and twenty, whole and part numbers. Plenty of counting at home would be really helpful. Recognising coins and counting money at home would be helpful too.

Science

Animals including humans (continued from last half term)

Last half-term we focused on humans and this half-term we will be looking at animals. We will identify and name a variety of common animals including, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals and we will describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals including pets). We will look at animals' diets and learn the terms herbivore, carnivore and omnivore.

Everyday materials

We will distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made
We will identify, name, describe and compare the properties of a variety of everyday materials and reasons why they may be used.





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Geography

We will continue to learn about the weather and seasons, and we will also explore the statement 'Where I live - my school and home'. We will locate where we live on a world and UK map and use basic geographical vocabulary to talk about the local area, our journey to school and begin to look at very simple maps.

Music

Music will be based around a song called 'Hey You!' where we will explore how we can make and use sounds expressively and in different ways - long/short, high/low.

We will explore rhythms and musical patterns, and how to create different effects.

We will learn Christmas songs too.

Design and Technology

Food - Having a healthy diet

We will begin to develop children's understanding of designing and making with food and the importance of healthy eating. We will make choices based on the properties of different fruit and vegetables in order to design and make a product for a particular occasion or target group to encourage them to eat more fruit and vegetables.

Children will investigate and taste different foods and develop vocabulary to describe the appearance, taste, smell and texture. We will apply hygienic practices and use basic tools and equipment effectively and safely.

Art

Although we don't have a specific Art unit this half term, our creative area will offer opportunities for:

Painting: using different brushes, and mixing colours.

Collage: using a combination of materials that are cut, torn and glued.

Sculpture: using a combination of shapes, and using different materials such as rolled up paper, straws, paper and card.

Computing

Children will use a range of equipment including iPads and Beebots and they will explore how to log-on and navigate the devices. They will also learn about keeping safe online.

If they could bring in their own headphones to keep in their tray, that would be helpful.

RE

Children will read the Christmas Story and explore 'Why are gifts given at Christmas?' Using the Bible's account of the bringing of gifts by the wise men.

RSHE & Citizenship

Who is special to us? This theme focuses on developing children's understanding of close and healthy relationships that include managing feelings towards ourselves and others and developing social skills. Children will also begin to be able to explain what it means to be a good friend.

We continue to use Zones of Regulation to help us to regulate our emotions and employ strategies to help us.

It is also Anti-bullying week in November so we will be doing plenty of anti-bullying work too.





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PE

We will be practising **Core Tasks - Dance – Moving Along** and **Games – Ten Point Hoops**

PE this half-term will again be on **Tuesday** and sometimes **Wednesday** afternoons.

Please remember that earrings must not be worn on those days for safety reasons. Please make sure all items of clothing are **clearly named** so we can get any lost items back to you as soon as possible.

We will also be continuing our whole-school approach to Sustainability, Global Citizenship, Rights Respecting and Fairtrade through various activities.

Homework will be sent out on a Thursday and should be completed by the following Tuesday.

If you have any concerns at all or would like to discuss any aspects of the curriculum further, please come in and see us.

Yours Sincerely,
Mrs Hilton, Mrs Elliott and Mrs Slater.

