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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 our Stone Age residential this half term as well as some lovely art and craft activities closer to Christmas. 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. Children will continue looking at number bonds to 10, 20 and 100, addition and subtraction methods and partitioning. We will be working hard on mastering our methods so that we are confident with our adding and subtracting skills. It is extremely important that children practise regularly. Conquer Maths is a great way to practise. Children will continue to have access to this for their weekly homework.

English

For our English this term, we will be looking at a range of texts. Reading the text 'The Legend of Spud Murphy' helps build children's understanding of longer texts, diary entries and character description.

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. 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. Remember that children will have regular visits to our school library which gives them the opportunity to read books for pleasure. Please support them reading this and praise their success on completion.

Science

Our Science topics this half term are 'Rocks and Soils' and 'Animals including Humans', linking nicely with our History work. Children will look at Rocks, how we can group them, fossils and soil. 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 how life changed during the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age periods.

Design and Technology

This half-term, children will have the opportunity to design and create a pop-up Christmas card/book. 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 **Tuesday and Wednesday** this half term. Children will be required to bring their PE kit into school. This half term we will be completing work on Indian Dance linked to our RE work on Diwali and Outdoor and Adventure. Please ensure children have their PE kit in school and this can be left for the remainder of the half term. Children should have a long pair of trousers/leggings and a jumper (if possible) for this half term's PE as we are still using the outdoor area and it may get cold.

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. We will have a particular focus on internet safety and how to report a concern during this half term.

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.





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PSHE/SRE

This half-term's themes are 'Good friends' and 'What keeps us safe?'. 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. We will look at keeping safe especially in scenarios such as household dangers, floods and rules and risks.

Spanish

In Spanish, we will be developing our understanding of nouns by learning the names of items in our pencil cases as well as a Christmas song in Spanish.

Music

This will be taught discretely and will be based around the song 'Let Your Spirit Fly'. It will provide children with the opportunity to improve their understanding of beat, rhythm, melody, tune and composition of music.

Homework will continue to be an important aspect of learning in Year 3 and will be given weekly in homework folders, on Teams or via the app. Homework will go out on Tuesdays and should be returned on Tuesdays to be marked.

As you can see, we have lots of fun and exciting learning to fit in this half term. If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything, please don't hesitate to contact us at: y3cleves@cclt.education

Yours Sincerely

The Year 3 Team
(Miss Dalglish, Ms Jones and Mrs Wall)

