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Cleves Cross Primary and
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Ferryhill
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DL17 8QY



Year 4 Autumn B 2021



Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new half term! We hope you and the children have all had a good week and are ready to move into a very second Autumn half-term. We will be continuing to work on our Roman topic, completing our work in History -looking at the impact the Roman invasion had on Britain.

In **English** we will be working from the book, 'Escape from Pompeii' by Christina Balit. This is a beautiful picture book that tells the story of a young Roman boy escaping from the catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius. This book will give children the opportunity to learn more about Roman daily life and look at what happened in Pompeii. There will be many writing opportunities linked to this book including; informal letters retelling the events of the eruption, a non-chronological report based on volcanoes and a news report telling of the destruction of Pompeii.

Within **Maths**, we will be looking at adding and subtracting 3 and 4 digit numbers using formal methods, measuring equivalent lengths in m and cm as well as mm, kilometres calculating perimeters of shapes. As always, times tables will continue to be a big focus this half-term. It is important that children practise their times tables regularly at home as well as in school. There are several websites and games that children can use to do this in a fun, engaging way including Hit the Button and TT Rockstars and old-fashioned chanting works well too!

In **Science**, we will be learning about electricity. Children will have the opportunity to look at the different ways households use electricity and what appliances use electricity in different ways. We will also be looking at circuits and how these work to power different things such as light bulbs and buzzers. Children will learn the vocabulary linked to circuits and have a go at building series circuits with switches and several light bulbs.

Geography our learning will focus on mountains and volcanoes. Children will have the opportunity to study the Earth's structure and how this has shaped the different landscapes around the world. Children will also look at how people living near active volcanoes are impacted and what their daily life looks like, comparing that to our own.

In **Computing** we will continue to develop our coding skills, working towards designing and developing a game using Scratch. We will also be developing our keyboard skills so becoming more confident using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint to produce information about Volcanoes. Children will learn continue to work on what makes an effective search criteria and also what to do if they see something that is unpleasant or that they feel is inappropriate.





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Design and Technology is linked to our Science work on electricity. Children will use their knowledge of circuits, to design and make a light up card. This will allow children, not only to demonstrate their understanding of circuits, but also develop their design skills - working to a specific brief and deadline to produce a special card for their family.

In RSE, the theme for this half term is 'Managing Feelings'. We will be discussing how feelings/emotions are part of a person's health and wellbeing and the importance of recognising that feelings usually change throughout the day and discussing what can help people to feel good about themselves and to improve their mood. This will further link to our work on anti-bullying.

In RE this half term we will continue to study Christianity, looking more at the Bible and also focusing on the question 'Why do Christians call Jesus the light of the world?'

In Spanish, we will continue to rehearse vocabulary around months of the year and dates linked to birthdays. We will learn a little more about the Spanish culture- developing an understanding of how the Spanish celebrate Christmas.

In PE, we will continue with swimming on a Monday afternoon for the second group of the class and with 3 Touch football skills on a Thursday. As we will endeavour to be outdoors as much as possible, the children should be equipped with suitable **outdoor kit** (tracksuit and trainers along with suitable warm top). Earrings **should** be removed at home on the morning of swimming and PE days or **must** be removed prior to the lesson starting.

In Music, we will continue with guitar lessons on a Friday afternoon. We will be learning to perform the ABBA song 'Mamma Mia' accompanying our singing with tuned percussion instruments.

We encourage children to read regularly with an adult at home. Reading and listening to books, is a wonderful way to develop vocabulary, fire imagination and visit places around the World and beyond whilst building confidence and fluency. The children have access to reading books, library books and online books (through provided platforms).

If you would like to discuss any aspects of the curriculum further, please don't hesitate to contact us on y4cleves@cclt.education.

Yours Sincerely
The Year 4 Team





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