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



Dear Families,

Happy New Year and welcome back! We've had a busy first week back after our Christmas holiday. We had a very busy first half term as we headed towards Christmas. We are excited to welcome some new friends to nursery this week, Isla, Neveah and Lucas. Our nursery is almost full! This half term our themes are Let's Celebrate New Year, Valentines and the people we love, Chinese New Year and we will be looking at Traditional Tales such as the Three Little Pigs.

Over the course of the half term we will be focusing on:

Personal and Social Education:

- Settling into our environment
- Understanding our rules and routines
- Activities with turn taking opportunities and how it feels to share
- My culture and traditions
- Celebrations that are important to me and my friends
- Our emotions and how we can name them
- What I like and dislike
- How I can be safe and how I can be safe online
- Oral hygiene

Literacy and Communication and Language:

- How to handle books and what each part of the book is called
- Retelling and discussing favourite and new stories
- Recognise our name around the Nursery
- Name writing
- Role play through the home corner, mud kitchen and small world
- Building our communication skills by using 4 - 6 word sentences
- Understanding two-part instructions such as 'Put on your coat then get a hoop.'
- Use topical vocabulary
- Valentine cards for the people we love
- Share our favourite and new nursery rhymes





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Mathematics:

- Enjoying number and finger rhymes
- Counting objects and actions
- Sorting/matching/ordering
- Colour mixing and patterns
- Shape names and simple properties
- Subitising up to 3 objects
- Understand Nursery routines and use words such as first, next, then
- Compare quantities and sizes
- Understand and use positional language

Understanding the World:

- Cultures
- Celebrations - New Year, Valentines, Chinese New Year
- Our traditions and others' traditions
- Seasons and weather changes
- Notice and discuss change in the environment around us such as freezing and melting

Expressive Arts and Design:

- Colour mixing
- Valentine's crafts
- Chinese New Year Crafts
- Chinese New Year drum making
- Chinese New Year Dragon and Lion dances
- Nursery rhymes and traditional songs
- Creating music maps using dots and dashes to represent sound
- 3rd Self portrait

Physical Development:

- Developing fine motor control and finger grip
- Developing scissor control
- Developing independent toileting and hand washing skills
- Dressing and undressing skills such as putting on our own coats and shoes
- Throwing, catching and kicking
- Dough disco and Yoga time
- Biking and riding activities
- How to move large equipment safely with friends and building obstacle courses





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In the Foundation Stage we follow children's interests, so it may be that some of these activities do not get completed and we follow the lead of the children into a different aspect of the topic.

In Nursery we spend a lot of time outside and it is particularly cold and wet during this time of year. It is important that all children have a warm winter coat, hat and mittens/gloves with their name inside as well as a **bag of spare clothes** for any necessary changes.

Please don't forget to upload on your child's Tapestry account all the lovely things you get up to at home over the coming weeks.

Many thanks for all your support,
Mrs Snowball and the Nursery Team

