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



## Year 3 Spring Term 1

Dear Parents,

**Happy New Year!** I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday. In Year 3 we have lots of fun and exciting things to look forward to in Spring Term. Our topic for this term is a question; 'What was it like for our ancestors here in Ferryhill?'.

Children will have the opportunity to investigate our local area and its many geographical and historical features, whilst developing their knowledge of Ferryhill's local achievements and significant people. I'm sure the children are going to really enjoy it and learn a lot more about their local village. As in most cases some of our subjects will not link to this topic therefore some lessons will be taught discretely.

### Maths

This half term we will be developing our understanding of multiplication and division further. This will include children looking at how multiplication and division are the inverse of one another and how this can help us when completing calculations. We will also be learning the grid method for multiplication and using this to solve different mathematical problems.

### English

Our English this half-term will be based around 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. By exploring this book, children will have the opportunity to develop many literacy skills. This will include their knowledge of descriptive language and different strategies authors use to add tension. This novel will allow children to complete writing in many genres including letter writing, recounts, poems and description.

### Science

Our Science topic this term will be Forces and Magnets. We will be exploring the question: How do Magnets work? This unit will look at forces, friction and magnetic attraction. We will learn about forces in the context of pushing and pulling and will identify different actions as pushes or pulls. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate friction, by exploring the movement of a toy car over different surfaces. Children will also have the chance to explore the way magnetic poles can attract by completing a range of activities. They will develop their scientific enquiry skills, making observations, predictions and conclusions.

### Geography/History

In Geography and History this half term, children will be looking at our local area. These subjects will be taught together as many features will be interlocking. We will be looking at land use within our area and how this has changed over time. We will be discussing changes in Ferryhill and comparing it to other areas in the northeast. Alongside this, we will be exploring historical figures, stories and culture within Ferryhill's past.





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### Art

This half term children will be exploring local artists such as Norman Cornish. We will also be looking at local mining art, mining banners and their importance. We would really appreciate any items of historical prominence in school and if any Grandparents/Great Grandparents have any stories, we would really appreciate them in class. Please contact the class email if this is something you can help with. Thank you

### PE

Children will be completing Dance and Gymnastics over this term. Children will be given opportunities to create a group dance inspired by machines and machinery. Our English text will support this and allow us to develop movement, sequencing and teamwork skills. Gymnastics will be focusing on balancing. We will be using the balancing equipment in our school hall to create a gymnastic routine including balances, turns, transitions and shapes. Our PE slots are on a **Wednesday and Thursday** this half term. PE kits should be brought into school on a Monday and returned home on a Friday. We would encourage you to leave their PE kit in schools for the whole half-term in case of timetable changes.

### RE

This lesson will be taught discretely and we will look at the different symbols in Christianity. We will look at different churches and how they are similar and what significance they hold for Christians.

### Computing

As well as completing work to develop our digital literacy, learning about the safe use of the internet and the importance of keeping personal details private, children will be learning more about computer programming and will have the opportunity to use Scratch to create simple animations.

### Spanish

In Spanish this half term, children will be learning about musical instruments. Children really enjoyed learning Spanish last term and I'm sure this will continue.

### PSHE and SRE

As part of the PSHE and SRE this half-term, children will be thinking about 'Why should we keep active?' and 'How to sleep well'. They will think about how well they know themselves, understanding their feelings and tips on staying healthy outside of school.

### Music

In music we will be building on our understanding of rhythm to explore more songs and beats. We will be using the song 'Three Little birds' by Bob Marley to explore this.

If you would like to discuss any aspects of the curriculum further, please don't hesitate to contact us on [y3cleves@cclt.education](mailto:y3cleves@cclt.education).

Yours Sincerely,

**Miss Dalglish and the Y3 team**

