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 Goldcrest Newsletter

Welcome to the start of a new academic year! I cannot wait for the adventures that this year has in store for us!

Throughout the year, we will be introducing lots of new learning. Therefore, it is very important that your child attends school every day and that they arrive to school promptly before the start of the day.

**Music through the decades**

This half term we will be exploring music through the decades. During our topic, we will explore music from 1940 to modern day. As part of this topic, we will be visiting Mansfield Museum on Thursday 19th September, during which our topic will be brought to life through a range of exciting activities. Within art, we will be exploring artists linked to our topic. During computing sessions, we will be using the new knowledge from our history lessons for create an annotated video.

**English**

Linking with our theme, this half terms focus books will be Drum dream girl and Drumming around the world. Over the half term, we will be writing explanation texts linked to our topic and our science theme. During grammar lessons we will be focussing on fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases, subordinate clauses, co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions and punctuation. In addition to this, we will have daily handwriting and spelling lessons where we aim to develop children’s understanding and add to their prior knowledge.

**Mathematics**

Goldcrest will begin the year focussing on place value; exploring roman numerals, partitioning, more and less and negative numbers. We will then learn about addition and subtraction; focussing on estimation, exchanges and different strategies. It is vital that all children are secure in their knowledge of these number facts. We therefore strongly encourage children to continue to practise their times tables at home, this can be done using their Timestable Rockstars login.

**PE**

This year, Goldcrest will do PE on Tuesday and Thursday each week. This half term we will be focusing on invasion games and circuit-based exercise activities. Through these themes, children will develop a range of skills and improve on their current ability. In order to take part, children need to be wearing their PE kit, which includes a white t shirt, black shorts and trainers. Please ensure these are in school at the start of each week to enable your child to participate in sessions.

**Science**

This half term, our science theme is sound. During this theme, we will explore how sounds are made. We will investigate how the volume alters when the distance from the sound source changes. Through exploration, we will investigate patterns between pitch, sound and volume. Children will have opportunities to explore their own lines of enquire and pose their own questions based on the topic.

**Homework**

It is expected that children read at home at least four times each week. Reading is such an essential skill that will enable children to make good progress in both reading and writing. The more your child reads, the better their reading, comprehension, spelling and writing will become. Whenever your child reads at home, please sign their reading diary. These reading diaries need to be brought to school each day. Maths, English or topic homework is set each Thursday and should be handed in no later than the following Tuesday. Homework will always link to the work in class that week. Therefore, it is essential that your child brings their homework in on time so that they are prepared for their new learning.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to come and see us or give us a phone call!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Henderson