



# Newsletter

## Autumn Term 2024 - Goldfinch

**Miss MacDonald**

Welcome to the Goldfinches Curriculum Newsletter. This is a summary of the learning planned for the Autumn Term.

If you have any concerns about your child's learning please contact Miss MacDonald directly, in the first instance.

### Maths

In maths we are developing our fluency, reasoning and problem solving. We will start the term by developing our understanding of tenths, hundredths and thousandths including calculation and rounding. We will also focus on learning to read, write and order numbers up to 1,000,000 using our knowledge of place value. We will also be looking at counting and comparing negative numbers and making everyday links. We will work on our written methods for all 4 operations with a particular focus on column addition and subtraction.

### English

We will start the first few weeks studying the books 'The wolves in the walls' by Neil Gaiman with the outcome of writing a diary entry. Over the term, we will be focusing on a range of fiction and non-fiction texts. We will be building up our writing stamina this term with the goal of writing more in the time. Through our writing lessons, our key grammar focus will be to consolidate the brilliant basics. We will then begin to build on these writing skills by learning how to use a range of openers and conjunctions. We will also focus daily on our handwriting as well to improve our letter formation.

### History

In history this half term, we will be learning about the Anglo-Saxons. Our key question is 'Was the Anglo-Saxon period really a dark age?' In this unit, the children will learn about the world of the Anglo-Saxons. They will consider why they came to Britain and whether the period deserves to be called the 'Dark Ages'.

### Geography

In the second half of the term we will be doing geography. Our focus is changes in the local environment. Our key question is 'How is our country changing?' We will use maps, atlases and computer mapping to name and locate some countries and cities of the United Kingdom, and identify local human and physical characteristics.

### RE

In our RE lessons will focus on the key question 'What is it like to follow God?' We will be exploring the story of Noah and Abraham. Children will make simple links between People of God and how some Christians choose to live in their whole lives and in their church communities.

### Science

In science we will focus on 'Materials'. The children will be identifying and describing properties. The children will be carrying out investigation to test different properties, make prediction and evaluate their results.

### PE

Our PE lessons will take place on a Friday. Children will need their PE kits in school so that they are able to fully take part in these lessons. In games we will focus on maintaining possession of a ball. We will also be doing a range of invasion games to improve team work and attacking and defending in sports.

### Art

In Art we will be drawing a famous Anglo-Saxon artefact, focusing on pattern, texture, tones and using pencils neatly. We will then use clay to turn our pictures into sculptures. The second half of the term, we will be looking at improving our painting skills. We will be painting landscapes using different brush techniques.

### Spanish

We will start with an introduction to the Spanish culture, weather and country. We will then learn greetings and how to say hello and good morning/afternoon. We will then learn numbers, days of the week, months and the weather.

### Music

In music this term, we will be learning to sing Mamma Mia by Abba. We will be learning about the pulse, beat and tempo. We will learn the song and then perform in class. In Autumn two we will introduce the children to learning about the language of music through playing the glockenspiel.

### PSHE

This term the children will be focusing on 'Getting on with everyone' and 'dealing with feelings'. The children will do this through a range of activities to support.

### Diary Dates

Anglo-Saxons topic day—TBC

Our Local area topic day—TBC

Swimming—Every Thursday

Forest schools—every Monday

### Contact Details

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