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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Spring Term

We hope that you have all got back into the routine of a new year and are looking forward to helping the children settle in as they learn many new things and develop skills throughout the year.

In Goldcrests, the children are taught by Ally, Amber, Karen and Sara. Over the year we will be following the children's interests as we engage in a range of activities based on the seasons and different festivals.

We hope you are all enjoying your weekly updates on Seesaw. PLEASE try to read it each week, we do include lots of information that is important for your child's development, as well as dates for your diary and things that are happening the following week. If you are having any problems accessing or any comments you would like to make, please speak to your keyworker.

We have introduced a no shoe policy, whilst playing indoors at Nursery. This will provide a wealth of benefits from strengthening the muscle in children's feet and ankles, improving balance and posture. During their day the children are very physical and would benefit from no slip socks. To also aid the children's independence when needing to change into footwear could you please provide your children with slip on or Velcro shoes, that they can take off and put on by themselves.

Change of Clothes

Please provide your child with a named bag enclosing a full change of clothes. Your child may require changing for a variety of reasons i.e. messy/water play or toileting accidents. To assist your child with toileting, please dress them in clothes that they can pull up and down easily i.e. jogging bottoms. This will support them as they become more independent and help them to avoid accidents. As we use the garden and the covered area all year round, we ask that you provide your child with a named coat, hat, scarf, gloves, and wellies, to ensure they can stay warm when playing outdoors. If your child comes to Goldcrests in wellies, please could you bring them a change of footwear to wear in the school building.

Forest School Sessions

We will be starting our Forest School sessions as soon as the new children have settled into our routine. These will take place on alternate Monday and Wednesday mornings so please send your child into nursery wearing appropriate clothes for the weather, but this should always include a long-sleeved top and long trousers to protect against nettles. We will always try and send out reminders of the day your child will be attending Forest School. The children need to wear wellies whatever the weather as they are sturdy for the uneven ground, and they protect against stinging nettles. Ideally, we would like each child to bring in a pair of wellies to keep at nursery, therefore they are always here for walks and playing on other days. If it is too wet/cold or windy, Forest School will be held at Nursery where we will still do Forest School activities.



Forest School Dates for the following term: -

Monday 13 th January	Wednesday 22 nd January
Monday 27 th January	Wednesday 5 th February
Monday 10 th February	Wednesday 19 th February
Monday 24 th February	Wednesday 5 th March
Monday 10 th March	Wednesday 19 th March
Monday 24 th March	Wednesday 2 nd April
Monday 7 th April	

Marks on Arrival

Active children accumulate bumps, bruises, scratches and scrapes often through active play. If your child comes to Nursery with an injury, we have a duty under the statutory framework to safeguard your children. This is accomplished through your participation in completing an accident form with a brief explanation of how it happened.

If your child is being collected by someone different from normal, then please tell us in the morning or telephone the office to let us know. If you do not arrive to pick up your child, they will wait in the hall, and you will be contacted. If we are unable to contact you, then we will telephone the next person on the list of people authorised to collect your child. Therefore, it is important that we are informed of any changes to contact details.

We ask that your children do not bring in their toys from home – they may get accidentally damaged, played with by others or muddled in with our equipment. It is much better that they get left in the car for going home time. We do stress, however, that if your child needs a small special security toy, blanket etc. they should be brought in until it is appropriate for them to be left at home as they do play an important role in your child's development. Could we also ask you to check that your child does not bring small objects into Goldcrests in their pockets, these could pose a risk to the children who still like to explore objects in their mouths. Children often swallow small objects such as coins, toys, or jewellery.

It is advised that you do not let your child wear jewellery to Goldcrests – necklaces or bracelets can cause problems if they become caught in toys and all jewellery is liable to break or to go missing and be hard to find. If ears are pierced, studs only should be worn.

Please speak to us in the morning or at the end of the school day if you have any concerns, queries or if there is any change that may affect your child through the day e.g. unsettled sleep, change in family situations etc.

Don't forget if you would like to discuss your child's development at Nursery with your child's key worker, please let us know and we will arrange a mutually convenient time.

Kind Regards

Ally, Amber, Karen and Sara
Goldcrest Team