



6th January 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to your second update about what your child will be studying in GCSE Media Studies lessons over the coming term.

Quick read

- I continue to add revision materials to the Google classroom which is an invaluable resource for students.
- Homework quizzes will still be set on a Monday for completion by Friday.
- This term we are studying television crime drama (specifically The Sweeney and Luther).
- You can help at home by encouraging your child to complete their quizzes, and asking them to tell you about the tv series they are studying in class and maybe even watching them too.

Longer read

After each unit of work, I am uploading revision materials to the Google classroom. It is beneficial for students to regularly revisit this material so that they don't forget about it whilst we are learning something new. With the Google classroom in place, there is never no homework!

Students should be in the routine now of completing a short retrieval practice quiz every week: this is a vital part of their learning and must be completed every week to ensure they have embedded the key facts of the course in their long term memory. It also informs my planning if there are any pieces of information that students have not understood.

This term's topic is one we have all been looking forward to: television crime drama, a sub-genre of TV drama that has evolved a lot in recent years. The set products for this part of the course are The Sweeney (an example of historical crime drama made for an independent television channel) and Luther (an example of a modern, gritty crime drama, made for the not-for-profit BBC but also distributed worldwide.) Students will be learning about the genre in general, so watching other crime dramas on TV at home can be useful to see what common features they have. They will also be looking at the industry behind the programmes (differences between the BBC and ITV); how audiences respond; representation of gender and ethnicity; and, analysing technical, audio and visual codes such as camera angles, dialogue, music, costumes, iconography and much more. It's going to be a really engaging term for us all!

As always, if you have any questions about the course, or your child's progress in the subject, do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully,

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