



MANOR PARK CE (VC) FIRST SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

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*LOVE FOR GOD, LOVE FOR EACH OTHER
LOVE FOR LEARNING*

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Dear families of Preschool

Welcome back to our current families and a very warm welcome to our new ones!

Our topic this half term is 'Marvellous Me'

Here is some information to outline what your child will be learning this half term in all the different curriculum areas. Do encourage your child to tell you about what they have been learning at school – it really helps the children to secure their learning when they discuss it with others.

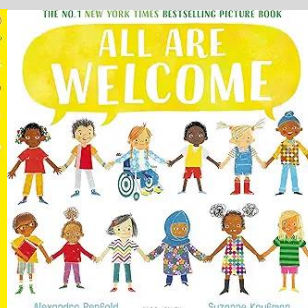
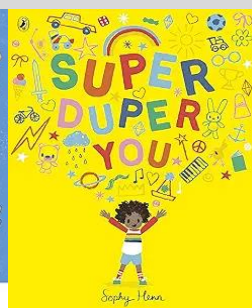
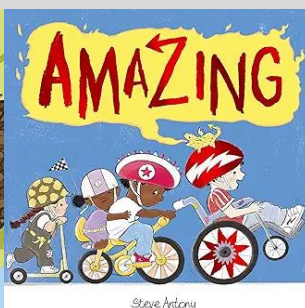
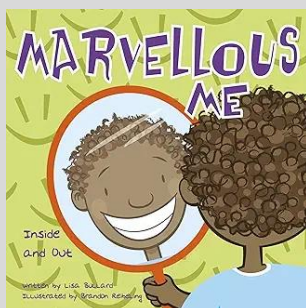
In **communication and language** (including **reading** and **writing**) we are learning:

This half term our focus will be on developing your child's listening and communication skills. We will be introducing new vocabulary, ensuring that they have a range of opportunities to use and hear these new words in their play. Children will learn new songs, rhymes and poems which will again help to develop their language skills.

They will be encouraged to talk about their families and share information within a small group. Our older children will be encouraged to ask questions in order to find out more.

We will be exploring mark making through a range of large- and small-scale experiences. Children will be able to use a range of resources to make marks, such as paint, crayons, chalks etc. We will talk about the marks that the children are making and will ask them to give meaning to these marks.

Sharing stories and developing a love of reading is at the heart of all we do and children therefore hear around two to three stories with us each day (and not forgetting lots of rhymes and songs!)



In **Physical development** we are learning:



Children will be developing a range of gross motor skills on a daily basis through our provision and the activities that we plan for them. We will focus on the children developing large scale movements, gaining increasing control as well as running, jumping and climbing.

Our Pine Cone children will also have a PE lesson twice a week with a focus on:

- Moving safely and sensibly in a space with consideration for others.
- Moving safely and stopping with control.
- Using equipment safely and responsibly.
- Using different travelling actions whilst following a path.
- Working with others cooperatively and playing as a group and to follow, copy and lead a partner.

Children will develop their fine motor skills by taking part in activities which help to develop their wrist, hand and finger dexterity and strength. They will explore tweezers, threading, and building using a range of construction such as duplo, playdough and clay.

Phonics

Our Pine Cone children will have daily small group phonic activities which will focus on helping to support and develop children's speaking, listening and vocabulary skills. This half term we will be listening to environmental and instrumental sounds as well as body percussion. Our group activities are designed to help children tune into sounds, be able to listen and remember sounds and be able to talk about the sounds that they can hear.

Children will also be introduced to our Pip and Pap characters, which is the phonics scheme that we follow.

Our Acorn children will continue to take part in a range of activities to support and develop their listening, speaking and attention skills.

In **Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)** we are learning:

This half term is all about settling or re-settling your child into Preschool. We will spend time getting to know your child through our 'Marvellous Me!' topic. They will be asked to talk about their family with a focus on their listening and speaking skills. We will be supporting the children in making new friends and reacquainting themselves with existing ones. We are focusing on our Preschool expectations which are linked to our mission statement of Love for God, Love for Each Other and Love for Learning.

Alongside our approach, our Pine Cone children will follow our My Happy Mind scheme which also helps to support and develop their PSED skills.

The focus of learning within My Happy Mind is on children understanding their own emotions and the emotions of others.

Pine Cone children will focus on the following themes:

- Who...me?
- How am I feeling today?
- Being at Preschool
- Gentle hands
- Our rights and responsibilities

In **Mathematics** we are learning:



Our Acorn children will be learning to:

- Combine objects like stacking blocks and cups
- Put objects inside others and take them out again
- Take part in finger rhymes with numbers
- Build with a range of resources
- Complete inset puzzles
- Say number names

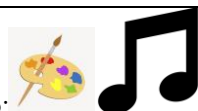
Our Pine Cone children will be:

This term, our maths learning will be full of songs, play and hands-on exploring! We'll be using nursery rhymes to support our counting and number work, making maths fun and memorable through rhyme and rhythm.

The children will be learning to compare groups of objects by talking about **more than, fewer than and the same**, helping them to develop a strong early sense of number.

We'll also be **exploring and building with shapes and objects**, giving the children lots of opportunities to handle and create with 2D and 3D shapes.

Later in the term, we'll be **spotting and creating repeating patterns** with colours, shapes, sounds and actions, encouraging children to look closely and notice patterns in the world around them.

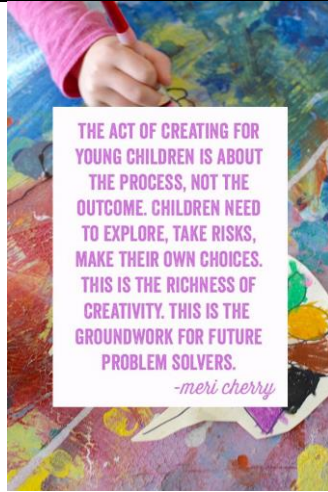


In **Expressive Arts** we are learning to:

- *Show attention to sounds and music.
- *Explore their voices and enjoy making sounds.
- *Make marks intentionally.
- *Explore paint using fingers and other parts of their bodies as well as brushes and other tools.
- *Explore different materials, using all their senses to investigate them.
- *Manipulate and play with different materials.
- *Make simple models which express their ideas.
- *Explore different materials freely, in order to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make.
- *Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them.
- *Join different materials and explore different textures.
- *Join in with songs and rhymes, making some sounds.
- *Explore a range of instruments and play them in different ways.

The children will be able to draw and paint pictures of themselves as well as their family. They will be able to select and use a range of resources independently to create their own work of art. They will explore and use musical instruments matching these to actions and songs.

We are advocates of the process of how and what the children do when creating their artwork rather than the end result.



In **Understanding the World** we are learning to:



- *Make connections between the features of their family and other families.
- *Enjoy and take part in action songs.
- *Manipulate and play with different materials.
- *Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history.
- *Notice differences between people.
- *Explore materials with different properties.
- *Explore natural materials, inside and out using their senses.
- *Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary.

Children will be developing their understanding of themselves and others. They will be talking about what they look like and how this might be the same or different to other people (for example eye and hair colour). We will explore our school and school grounds. We will observe nature and will focus on how the season is changing to Autumn. We will develop children's vocabulary and understanding through a range of hands-on experiences. We will share our photos of our families and will listen to others. We will begin to be able to talk about what makes our families the same/different. We will talk about our interests and the things we are good at.

In **RE** we will be reading the following Bible stories: Noah's Ark, Creation of the world and The Good Samaritan

Additional class information:

PE days

PE days will be on a Monday and a Wednesday. Please ensure that your child comes into Preschool wearing their school uniform of dark navy jogging bottoms or leggings, a navy-blue t-shirt and their blue school jumper or cardigan. Please ensure your child wears black trainers in school at all times.

Please note, our curriculum gives us plenty of opportunities to support your child's physical development so if they do not attend on a Monday and/or a Wednesday please be assured that they will still have many opportunities.

Library books

We will change your child's library book every week. If your child is in Preschool on a Tuesday, please ensure that their library book is in their bag ready to change. If they are not in on a Tuesday, we will change it the next day that they are in. Thank you.

Tapestry/Arbor

Please ensure that you have set up your Tapestry account so that you can see our regular updates on your child's progress. Tapestry is to be used to document your child's learning journey (so for example if you would like to share something that your child has achieved/made progress with please share it on here). Please let us know if you have not had a link to activate this.

Arbor is used to share updates with you from the school. Please download the app. If you have any difficulties with this, the school office will be able to support you.

Dates for the diary

Tuesday 30th September communication and language coffee morning 9am. All families invited!

Week beginning- 6th October- New children, parent consultations.

Inset Days- 22/23/24 October (so last day of term is 21st Oct)

Reminders

If your child is absent from Preschool, please either call or email the school office to let us know.

Please let a member of the team know if another adult is collecting your child. If a message has not been passed onto us, we will always need to call you to gain your permission before releasing your child.

We open gates at 8.55am and pick up/drop off is 12pm at office or 3pm at the preschool gates, depending on your child's sessions. Please can we ask that you are on time for the 12pm pick up as we have a turn-around of children and these need to keep within the legal ratios.

Please ensure that your child has spare clothes in their bags (trousers, top, jumper, socks and underwear). Many thanks.

Please ensure your child has a named pair of wellies and a puddle suit in Preschool - thank you.

Ideas to support your child's learning at home

*Share a bedtime story with your child each night. Talk about the story- Who are the characters? What do you think might happen next? What is your favourite part of the story? etc

*Go on a walk and look for signs of Autumn. Collect some things to bring into Preschool to share with us.

*Take part in painting, playdough and other art and craft activities.

*Go splashing in muddy puddles. Remind your child that it is okay to get messy (we are strong advocates for this in Preschool!)

*Listen and dance to music. How does it make us feel?

*Ride your scooter/balance bike/bike.

*Visit the library - library cards are free and there are no fines for late returns on a child's card.

*Talk about your family and your favourite things.

We look forward to a fantastic half term!

The Preschool Team