



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

Mellstock Avenue
Dorchester, Dorset
DT1 2BH

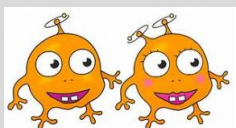
Head of School: Mrs Tamara Sterck

LOVE FOR GOD, LOVE FOR EACH OTHER
LOVE FOR LEARNING

Telephone School office: (01305)268741
Website: www.manorpark.dorset.sch.uk

Dear Families of Reception

Welcome back to a new term here at Manor Park First School. We hope you have all had a lovely break and are ready to get back to school. Here is some information to outline what your children 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 **English (communication and language, phonics, reading and writing)** we are learning:

This term we will be continuing with our Pip and Pap phonics. The children will be continuing with Orange and Pink Phase and some children will start to look at digraphs in more detail. We will be looking very closely at the sound mats and how children can independently use these to support their reading and writing.

In writing we will be exploring and learning traditional tales so we can retell them, role play and write about them.

We will:

Speaking

- learn the new vocabulary
- use the new vocabulary
- sequence events
- talk about our thoughts and feelings about the traditional tales
- join in with familiar stories
- use story words and vocabulary



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

We are looking at different celebrations focusing on Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Diwali and Christmas.



We will:

- Talk about people around us in good detail, describing their roles, interests or news about them.
- Discuss past and upcoming events within our own family, understand that the past is the time 'before now'.
- Notice similarities & differences between people, reflecting on differences positively.
- Know that we come from a different country to other children and understand that these are different places.
- Discuss the roles of people in our community.
- Share our experiences of local features of our community (by delivering Christmas cards and a trip to the garden centre).
- Show understanding that we need to care for living things.
- Use our senses to explore natural materials and describe what we observe.

- talk about familiar stories and traditional tales
- answer questions about traditional tales

Writing

- hear, say and write the initial sound in a word.
- hear, say and write the last sound in a word.
- hear, say and write dominant sounds in a word.
- use sounds to write simple captions and start to write simple sentences.
- form letters correctly.

Reading

- Match orange (and some pink) graphemes and phonemes.
- Blend and read cvc words with orange sounds and some pink sounds
- Read captions involving orange sounds.
- Read orange and pink Earth words.

- Discuss changes in seasons from Autumn to Winter.
- Make reference to changes to the natural world, weather and our habitats, using increasingly mature vocabulary.
- Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around us, including the seasons and changing states of matter (gingerbread making).

We will continue to take part in outdoor learning each week. Our focuses will be:

Weeks 1&2 **Theme: creeping, crawling minibeasts**

We will go on bug hunts, learn about their habitats, their names, what they look like and what we can do to help to care for them.

Weeks 3&4 **Theme: birds**

We will focus our learning on being able to answer the following questions: What birds live in our environment? Can we learn some names? Can we learn some facts? Do they like the cold weather? Where do they live? Do they have enough to eat?

Week 5 **Theme: Autumn**

We will observe the colours that we see in Autumn and will create large-scale paintings from this.

Weeks 6&7 **Theme: Christmas**

We will collect sticks and create our very own Father Christmases!



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

In our My Happy Minds curriculum we will be looking at My Happy Places and Celebrate.

My Happy Places:

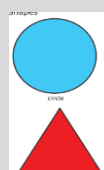
Session 1 – Activity pairs – to help children to recognise and understand emotions and how we may react to them in different situations – beginning to explore emotional regulation in different places.

Session 2 – Places Sorting – to understand you can feel a range of emotions and to start to recognise when you feel happy and safe and when you don't. We will start to explore what the different Places represent – Happy Place,

In **Mathematics** we are learning to:



- Explore and investigate shape by recognising and naming triangles and circles as well as 4 sided shapes.
- Represent 1 2 3, 1 more and 1 less, composition of 1 2 3
- Learn how to explore the numbers within 5.
- Understand how these numbers are made.
- Understand the fiveness of 5.
- Form our numerals correctly when writing them.



Busy Place and Middle Place.

Session 3 – Strategy Hunt - Once children recognise their own feelings/emotions and when they may be in their Happy, Middle or Busy Place, they can use a range of self-regulation strategies to support them in staying in or returning to their Happy Place. Children will explore different self-regulation strategies and begin to recognise strategies that they can use every day.

Session 4 – To design and create your own special Happy Place to be celebrated by all.

Celebrate:

Celebrate Session 1 - We will explore what 'Character strengths' are and these will be referred to as our superpowers. We will learn a lot about the Love and Kindness strengths.

Celebrate Session 2 - We will explore the Character Strengths of Bravery, Honesty, Teamwork and Friendship.

Celebrate Session 3 - We will explore the Character Strengths of Exploring, Learning and Love of Life and Our World.

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

Creating with materials:

- Make some independent choices about the resources needed and talk about creations that we have made.
- Use different textures in creations and combine media - we will be exploring an array of mark making through collage, clay, painting, writing, colouring and drawing.
- Make cuts along curved lines with scissors to help create masks and hats and use moulding tools with malleable materials to help us design clay lanterns.
- Use a range of shapes and colours to represent observational drawings.

We will be using our design skills to plan, create and review the following things. We will review each of their creations by asking - what went well? What would you do differently next time?

Weeks 1&2- children will be asked to design and make a basket for Red Riding Hood.



In **Physical development** we are learning to:

Gross Motor Skills

- Use a range of ways to move appropriately, e.g. jumping, hopping, sliding.
- Climb over, under and through obstacles, e.g. climbing frame and large construction obstacle courses.
- Use large construction to build.

Fine Motor Skills

- Use a tripod grip with some consistency.
- Draw, representing recognisable objects or shapes in work.
- Use scissors to cut along curved lines, holding scissors in the correct position.
- Mould and shape clay with fingers and tools.



Weeks 3&4- Can you design and make a bridge for the goats?

Week 5- Can you design and make gingerbread. Can you make a box to put your gingerbread in?

Weeks 6&7- Can you design and make a postbox for the Jolly Postman?

Being Imaginative and Expressive

- Play alongside others to develop storylines of familiar traditional tales in role play or small world areas.
- Sings familiar songs for our Nativity show at the end of the term.
- Rehearse for, and perform in, the Nativity play.
- Move in response to music with interpretation to how the music is making the children feel.

In RE we will focus our learning around the following two questions:

- Why do Christians perform nativities at Christmas?
- What do Muslims say Muhammad is like?

We will learn:

- Describe how you identified Jesus in the picture.
- Recall some stories that tell Christians about Jesus.
- Tell the Nativity story through drama.
- Complete a wrapping present challenge and discuss special gifts.
- Recognise the signs of Christmas in a range of objects.
- Recognise words in carols that show how important Jesus is to Christians.
- Through the story 'The Tiny Ants' we will explore the message that is in the story and what kind of person Muhammad is.



Additional class information:

Library books

Library books will be changed on Thursday (Maple) or Friday (Hazel). It is really important that books are brought back each week so they can be changed. Please enjoy sharing these together.

Reading books:

We will continue to take in and return your child's Pip and Pap reading book on a Monday. Please ensure that this book is in their bag every day so that we can hear them read in school. It is important that you read at home at least 4 times a week. Our rainbow books are for your child to look at the pictures and to retell the story and there are questions and activities for you to follow to support your child. Orange and Pink Pip and Pap books include sounds that your child has learned and Earth words which are the words where we just haven't learnt the code yet. The children were really excited to meet all of the aliens in our new phonics learning.

Please ensure that you record your child's learning on Learning with Parents so that we can see how often they are reading at home. Thank you.

Tapestry/Parent Hub:

We will continue to use Tapestry for our wow moments both at home and at school and mainly we will post our weekly update on Fridays. If you need to contact the Reception team about anything else then please contact the office or catch one of the Early Years team on the gate at pick up or drop off.

Reminders:

PE is on a Monday and Thursday. Please can all children come in their PE kit on these days. Thank you.

We will be holding a Christmas craft and carol event for you to come along to. A date for this will be shared with you shortly.

We look forward to another fantastic term!

The Reception Team