



**Monkton Church of England**  
**Primary School**

**Newsletter for Class 1**  
**Term 1**

*In God's eyes, Everyone is special.*

**English**

This term will be all about introducing the children to the first steps of reading and writing. They will begin to recognise their own names and start to practice writing them using our handwriting policy.

The children will have lots of fun mark marking and completing fine motor skills activities to get them ready to write.

Daily phonics sessions will begin where the children will learn to recognise sounds and practice forming them. We will think about the initial sounds in words and play lots of games.

Your child will soon start to bring a reading book home along with some guidance for you in order to help them make the most of their home reading.

**Communication and Language**

This term is all about settling the children in and getting to know one another. We will encourage the children to share their likes and dislikes as a class and get to know more about each other. We will encourage the children to speak in clear, structured sentences and help them to feel confident to speak within a group. The children will also be introduced the language they will hear within school and what they mean will be discussed with them.

**Maths**

Every day will we have our 'Maths Mash Up' sessions where we will sing songs and play simple games to practice our counting up and down using numbers to 20. Here we will also begin to learn the days of the weeks and talk about the weather. In our Maths lessons we will be working with numbers to five to count, add, subtract and represent in different ways.

**General**

Welcome to Bee Class. We have lots of fun things planned for the children this term in order to give them a great start to their school life.

This term our topic will be 'Me and My Community.' Here the children will think about their homes, families, clubs they belong to and all about school life. We will also think about people who help us in our community and find out about the roles of policemen, doctors etc. We will also have a mini topic of 'Autumn' and have lots of fun exploring this outside.

**RE**

The first topic we have in RE is 'God Creation'. Here the children will be introduced to the Christian belief that God made the Earth and all things in it. They will learn that God's creation took 7 days and about the things he created. Sometimes, we will combine our RE lessons with our Art lessons in order to make our own fabulous creations.

**ICT**

The children will have access to our class computer during their child-initiated play where the adults will help them to play games and create simple pictures.

**Physical Development**

Activities will be set up to allow the children to develop their fine motor skills. They will be using equipment to draw, cut, fold, pinch and grip.

They will also be introduced to simple skills in our PE sessions to develop their gross motor skills. We will run, jump, catch and throw!

## Other Specific Areas

### Understanding the World

We will be looking very closely at the changes that happen during Autumn and how this affects the weather and the animals who live outside. We will also think about what this means for us.

How do we need to change our behaviour? How might what we wear change now?

We will talk about our place within the world and the communities we belong to as well as thinking about the people who else stay safe and happy.

### Expressive Arts & Design

We will paint self-portraits and learn some simple songs. We will also practice a lovely song for our harvest festival. The children will also have access to arts and crafts, junk modelling and playdough in their free play.

### Vocabulary

Below are some words that the children will come across during their learning that they might be unfamiliar with that you might like to help them understand:

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Maths</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Understanding the World</u>
Community	Count	Phonics	Autumn
Place	Forwards	Sound	Weather
People	Backwards	Initial	Changes
Family	Number	Grapheme/Phoneme	Seasons

### Websites

- Games to aid Letters and Sounds, using the pure sound.
- <http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-2.html>
- Counting forwards and backwards through song:  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/schoolradio/subjects/mathematics/countingsongs>
- A variety of mathematic games:  
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=37>

### Special days/ Come join us

- Tuesday 13th September- Roald Dahl Day- welcome to come in dressed as their favourite Roald Dahl character or in his favourite colour- yellow
- Thursday 29th September- 150 years school celebration- more details to follow
- Friday 30th September- Flu vaccinations- more details to follow
- Monday 17th October- Equalities week
- Friday 21st October- Show Racism the Red Card Day - wear red!
- Fri 21st October- end of term