

### Communication and Language

We will be:

Listening to others during circle time e.g. to find out about our favourite toys and games;  
Talking about ourselves and others using describing words e.g. whilst playing the game 'Guess Who';  
Imagining and recreating roles in real life family situations and fictional stories using dress up and props;  
Listening to and joining in with familiar stories and rhymes;  
Asking and answering simple questions.

### Personal, Social and Emotional

We will be:

Participating in listening and turn taking games e.g. 'I spy' and 'Simon Says';  
Trying new activities independently and selecting resources independently;  
Following the routines of the school day;  
Thinking and talking about emotions and the feelings of others;  
Talking about our families and friends e.g. whilst making our own mini books;  
Talking about and celebrating our abilities.

### Physical Development

We will be:

Traveling in a variety of ways (e.g. skipping, hopping and rolling through, over and under a range of equipment);  
Exploring movements with different parts of the body e.g. 'Funky Finger' challenges;  
Learning to balance on different parts of the body;  
Developing hand control to use a pencil;  
Learning about how to keep healthy;  
Using a range of tools safely, including scissors, to make and create drawings, pictures and models.

### Literacy

We will be learning to:

Recognise and write our own names;  
Learn the different sounds that single letters make during phonic sessions and through playing fun and interactive games;  
Write familiar words e.g. mum, dad;  
Write some cvc words e.g. cat, sun, jam;  
Draw and label pictures;  
Access favourite and familiar stories and use them to recall information e.g. to retell the story using pictures or props.

### Mathematics

We will be learning to:

Count, recognise and order numbers to at least 10 e.g. whilst on a number hunt;  
Match numbers to quantities of groups to at least 10 e.g. the numbers of people in different families;  
Say the number one more or less than a given number up to 10;  
Order and compare objects by size and weight e.g. the sizes of people in our families;  
Name and describe simple 2D shapes.

## **Magical Me**

### Understanding of the World

We will be:

Talking about the similarities and differences between ourselves and our friends;  
Finding out about the different parts of the body;  
Using the iPads to help us learn;  
Using digital cameras to take photos of friends;  
Exploring the use of our five senses e.g. by exploring texture buckets with our hands and feet!  
Looking for and describing natural objects e.g. to make stick people pictures.

### Expressive Art and Design

We will be:

Exploring the sounds of different instruments;  
Making sounds using different parts of the body e.g. clapping and stomping;  
Singing familiar songs and learning new songs;  
Listening to and moving to music;  
Drawing and painting self-portraits and family portraits;  
Naming and mixing colours;  
Building models of familiar objects e.g. our homes.



## Orange and Yellow Class Autumn 1

A warm hello and welcome to Reception to all of our new children and families. We hope that you and your child are beginning to feel settled and are enjoying school life so far. Below, we have included some information which you may find helpful in discovering a little more about life in Reception and how you can support your child as they begin their journey at Monkfield Park.

This half term, our first topic focus will be 'Magical Me', during which the children will celebrate how special they, their families and friends are. They will learn about how we all look different, experience a range of emotions, and enjoy doing different things. This will then continue into them exploring their bodies and how they work, including their five senses. On the page overleaf, you will find the objectives the children will be working to achieve and examples of supporting activities that they will have fun taking part in whilst learning. If you work in a profession which is relevant to our learning this half term, we would love you to come in and share your knowledge with the children. This could be anything from a nurse, to a dentist, to a shopkeeper. You are always welcome.

**Daily Routine** - Each morning we are available from 8.50-9.00 am inside our classrooms and each afternoon outside our classroom doors if you have any small queries or messages to pass on to us. If you have anything you would like to discuss in length or privately, please arrange to meet with us by writing in your child's home school communication book or contacting the school office via telephone or email. As well as letting us know about going home arrangements the home school communication book is also there for you to comment on your child's reading; to tell us about something exciting which has happened at the weekend and to ask any questions you may have about learning and routines.

**Busy Finger Activities** - From Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September, we will be introducing 'Busy Finger Activities' from 8.50-9.00 am. The activities on offer to the children aim to develop fine motor control in a fun and enjoyable way. Some of the activities include: threading beads to make friendship bracelets and cotton bud letter painting. Please could you help your child by finding their group's name card each morning, which will either be on one of the tables or inside a tuffspot, so they can get busy straight away.

**Your Child's Learning Journey in Reception** - This is a special book which chronicles each step and achievement in your child's learning journey throughout their time in Reception. A vital part of the EYFS curriculum is to involve parents in their child's learning and we feel it is important to share their accomplishments with you. You will have your first opportunity to come and share your child's Learning Journey on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November (details to follow). We also encourage you to share any home achievements which could be added to your child's Learning Journey by filling in a 'magical moment' slip (found inside a wallet on the doors of each classroom). Please take some slips to fill in at home and bring them into school so that your child can share and celebrate their 'magical moment' with the rest of the class.

**PE** - This half term, each class will have one PE session a week. Your child will need both **indoor kit** (blue shorts, a white T-shirt, plimsolls) and **outdoor kit** (warm jogging bottoms, a warm sweatshirt and sensible, supportive training shoes) at all times throughout the term as PE may take place outdoors if the weather is suitable. If you would like to take your child's kit home for washing, please do this on a Friday and return it to school on a Monday morning, so that it is ready to use during the week.

**Cooking Activities** - Each half term the children will have the opportunity to take part in cooking and tasting activities which link to the class theme or topic. If your child has any allergies or if you do not wish your child to take part in an activity, please inform the school office or write in your child's communication book. The following two activities are planned for this half term:

*Food faces*- to practise their recognition of 2D shapes, the children will use and make different shaped food to create their own face.

*Fruit tasting*- to explore their sense of taste and texture, the children will have the opportunity to prepare and taste a variety of different fruit and vegetables e.g. pineapple, lemon, tomatoes and avocado.

### Helping your child at home

- Finding and counting objects up to 10 e.g. Lego or teddies.
- Matching everyday objects to 2D shapes e.g. a clock to a circle or a book to a rectangle.
- Reading stories together and talking about the characters and events.
- Encouraging mark making for different purposes e.g. to label a drawing or to write a shopping list.
- Talk with your child about their different emotions and why they may be feeling a particular one.

**Keeping Informed** - Outside both classrooms there is a large whiteboard which is updated regularly with messages and reminders. Inside the external doors is also a notice board, which tells you all about what the children have been learning about each week. Be sure to check this at the end of week to see what your child has been doing. Furthermore, on the school's website you will find an array of information, such as school policies and important diary dates. We also have a page specifically for our two classes, and a blog which we update on a half termly basis along with photographs and the children's comments and work.

### Important Diary Dates:

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	'Meet the Teacher' evening (details to follow)
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Read Write Inc. Phonics information evening (details to follow)
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Consultation evenings (details to follow)
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual photographs
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Consultation evenings (details to follow)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Autumn 1 ends-last day of school
21 <sup>st</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup> October	Half term holiday
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	Autumn 2 begins-children return to school

Kind Regards,

Mrs Sheldon and Mrs O'Rourke