Welcome to
Ely St John's Primary School

Registered charity No: 1117367

Friends of Ely St John's

The Early Years Foundation Stage
What Happens in the Classroom?

A typical day in our EYFS classroom

- Self-registration and start of day activities
- Phonics teaching
- Learning Activities
- Snack and Story
- Learning Activities
- Maths teaching
- Lunch
- Register and after lunch ‘calm’ time
- Learning Activities
- Circle Time
- Story and singing
- Home time

Communication and Language

Being able to communicate effectively is one of the most important skills that children develop in the Early Years Foundation Stage. We support this by modelling conversation, teaching vocabulary and providing opportunities for children to talk and interact as part of their learning and play.

Story Telling

Performing favourite songs and rhymes

Role play of familiar experiences

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Working together, recognising and managing emotions and saying how you feel are big skills for little people to learn. The children have opportunities every day to work both independently and with others so that their PSED happens naturally during their play. Adults support by modelling good interactions and teaching the vocabulary needed. We also have circle times for the teaching of whole class next steps.

Physical Development

Every child needs to develop their gross motor and fine motor skills before beginning to write. Opportunities for this are available everyday in both the indoor and outdoor areas and are a central focus in our Autumn term provision. This area of learning also covers specific skills taught in PE and discussions about healthy choices.

Threading and lacing

Using tools to scoop

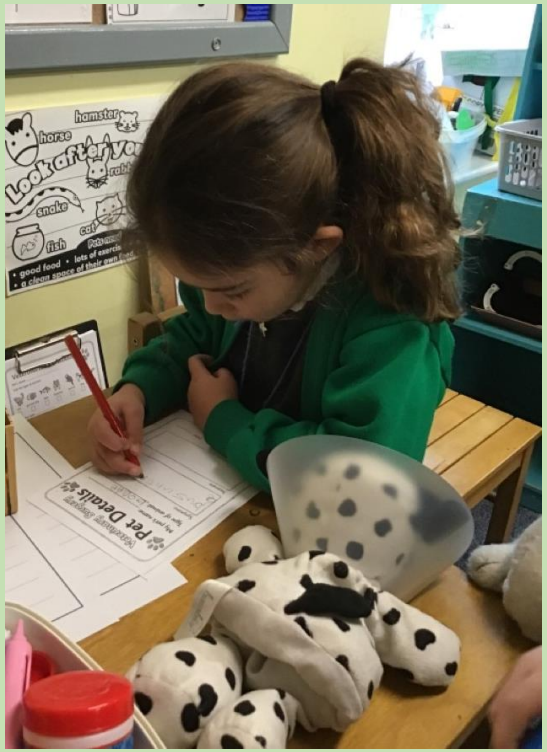
Obstacle courses and wheeled toys develop balance and spatial awareness

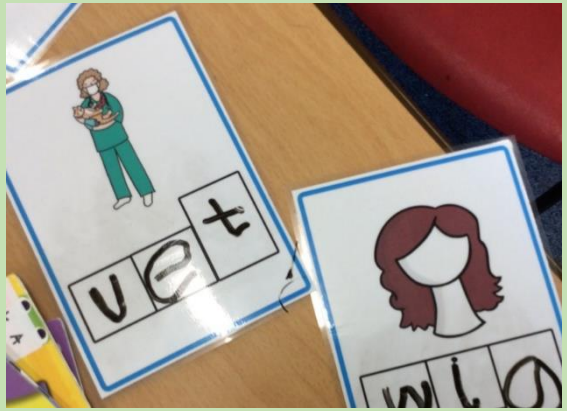
Literacy – Phonics & Early Reading

Phonics is the relationship between a sound and the letter/s that represent it. Phonics is taught daily through short interactive sessions that include games, songs and actions. Opportunities for children to apply their phonics to reading and writing are planned into the classroom provision every day. We follow the Twinkl Phonics scheme throughout Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1.

Literacy - Early Writing

We introduce letter formation early in the Autumn term as part of name writing activities and practise in lots of ways before moving to paper and pencil. There are daily opportunities for word building, mark-making and purposeful early writing in every area of the classroom, planned to link to the children's interests.





Maths – Number and Numerical Patterns

The children join in with a short maths input every day. This might cover counting skills, number concepts (e.g. more, less, odd, even), and calculation. The children also take part in small group maths work each week and have opportunities to use their new knowledge in the classroom environment. We follow the White Rose Mastery approach throughout the school.

Finding number buddies to 10

Counting domino dots and recognising numbers

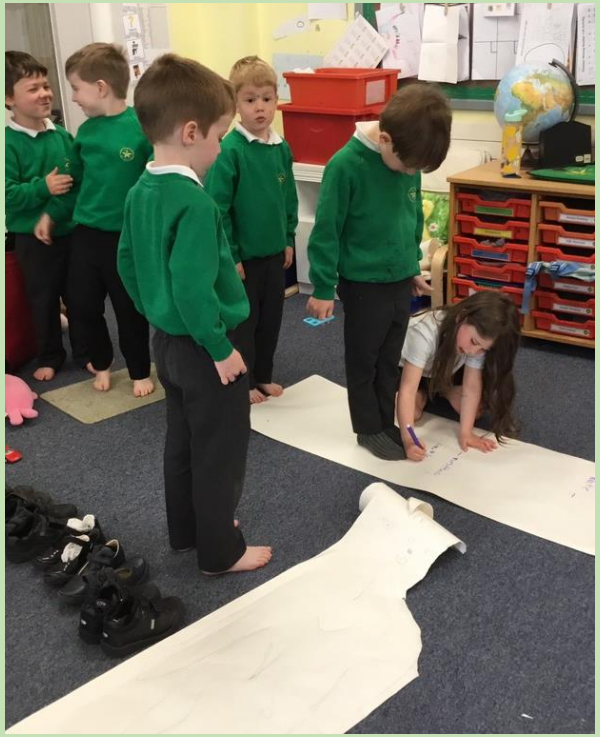
Problem solving

Matching numbers and counting quantities

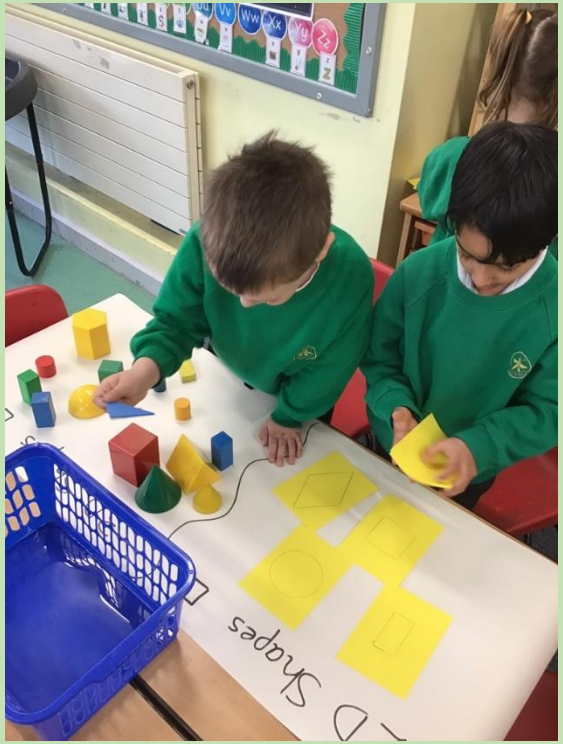
Maths – Shape, Space and Measure

Our maths learning also covers the concepts of shape, space and measure. Most of this learning takes place practically.

Using balance scales



Measuring jumps



Sorting and matching shapes

Understanding the World

This is a wide area of learning that covers everything from special events to animal habitats and everything in between! We often call it our 'theme' or 'topic' learning and we are led by the children's interests. This year we have found out about dinosaurs, our solar system, melting and freezing and animals that hatch from eggs to name just a few.

Planting seeds

Making volcanoes

Exploring floating and sinking

Nature Garden
We visit regularly to observe the changes taking place

Expressive Arts and Design

This area of learning supports and develops creativity. We teach specific skills throughout the year and then provide opportunities for the children to use and develop them further in their play.

Foot printing!

Moulding clay to make a tea light holder

Inventing and constructing machines

Assessment and Planning

Assessment is through observation and conversation. Adults work together to document a child's current attainment and plan for next steps using the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile. At the end of the year, every child is assessed against the Early Learning Goals.

How do we record children's learning?

- Learning journals
- Tapestry online
- Classroom displays

Within the first 6 weeks of school, the children will also complete the statutory **Reception Baseline Assessment**. This is a short, interactive and practical assessment that is led by the class teacher and covers early mathematics, language, communication and literacy.

Uniform

Lunch

Every child in the EYFS is entitled to a free school meal. The children are supported by a team of midday supervisors and each class has an allocated adult who stays with them for the whole hour.

Class Toys &
Home-School Communication

Being School Ready

Being ‘school ready’ has a different meaning in every setting!

At ESJ it means that a child…

- is independent in their self-care.
- understands that some choices are unsafe.
- is willing to have a go at new activities.
- can make choices about their play.
- will share their needs and ideas with others.
- plays with and alongside others.

Questions