



The Early Years Foundation Stage
What Happens in the Classroom?

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



Telling jokes on the outdoor telephone



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 personal, social and emotional skills develop 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.



Collaborative art work



Jigsaws and board games promote turn taking and conversation



Collaborative role play



Negotiating space and taking turns

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.



Moving and placing small items



Using tools to scoop and pour



Obstacle courses and wheeled toys develop balance and spatial awareness



Literacy – Phonics & Early Reading

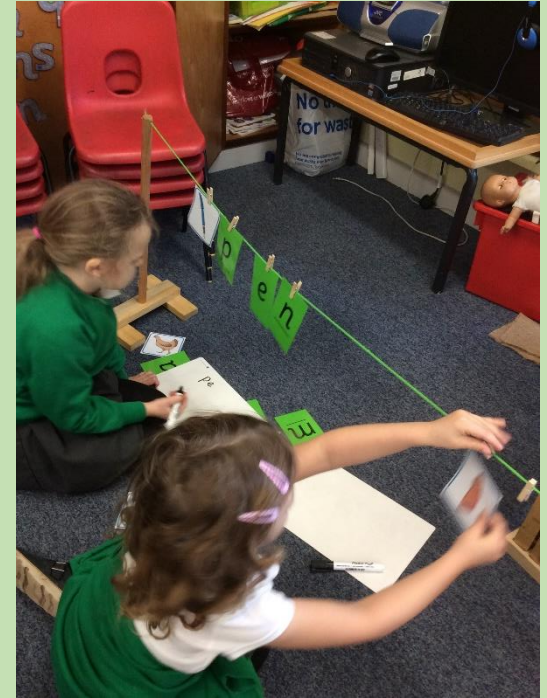
Phonics is the relationship between a sound and the letter/s that represent it. Phonics is taught daily through short interactive sessions that include games, songs and actions. Opportunities for children to apply their phonics to reading and writing are planned into the classroom provision every day. We follow the Letters and Sounds teaching sequence, supported with some Jolly Phonics resources.



Being the teacher with flashcards and phonics toys



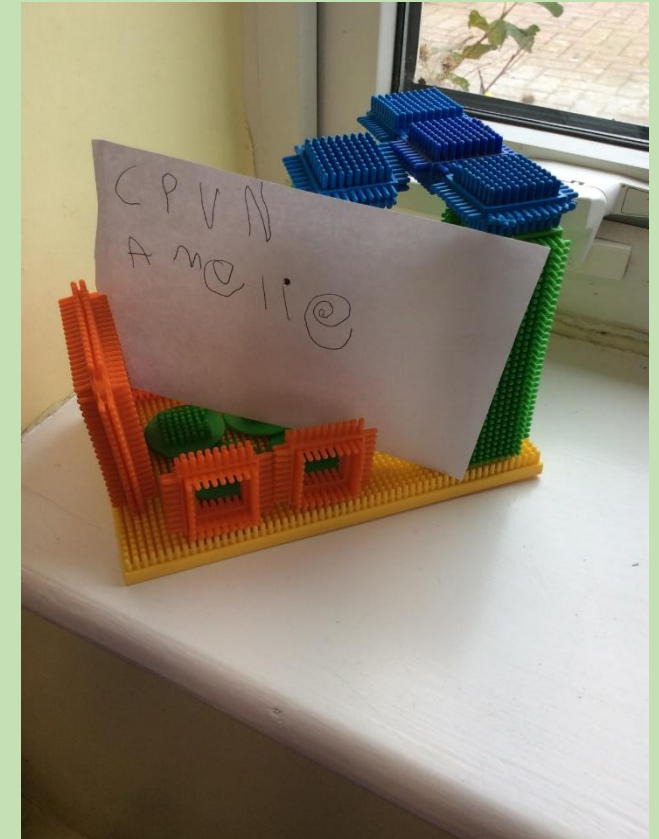
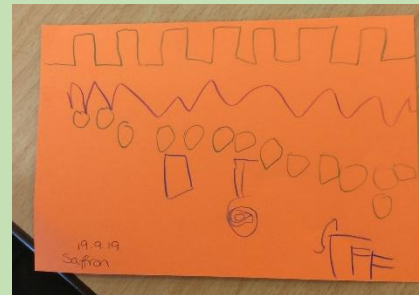
Making words with magnetic letters



Making words on a washing line

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.

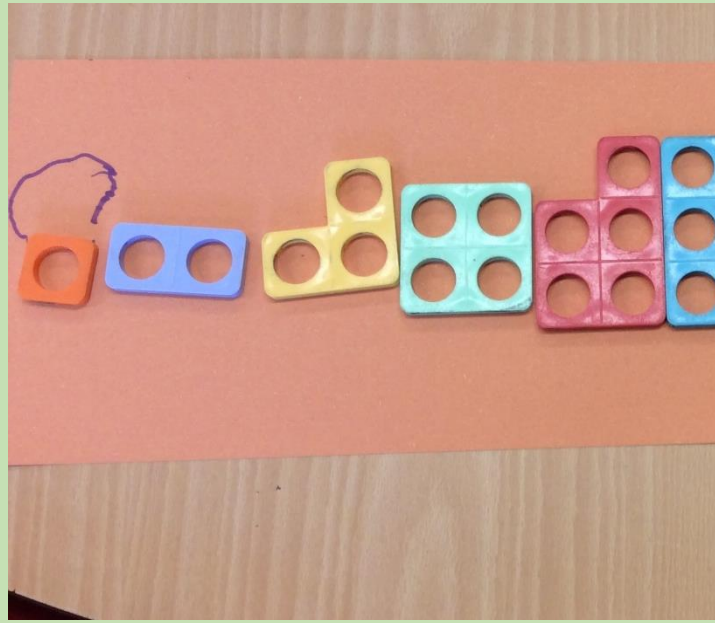


Maths - Number

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 planning guidance and the NCETM Numberblocks resources to support teaching of number and calculation.



Counting domino dots and recognising numbers



Ordering Numicon amounts



Number songs with props



Matching numbers and 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. We follow the White Rose planning guidance to ensure high quality teaching of shape, space and measure, linking practical activities to the children's interests.



Measuring dinosaur footprints



Exploring capacity



Using shape

Understanding the World

This is a wide area of learning that covers everything from special events to early computer skills and everything in between! We often call it our 'theme' or 'topic' learning and we are led by the children's interests. Last year we have found out about underwater creatures, our solar system, floating and sinking and minibeasts to name just a few.



Talking about festivals and special days – Pancake Day



Nature Garden
We visit regularly to observe the changes taking place



Exploring floating and sinking



Using tools to make a healthy meal for Rudolph



Exploring software on the interactive whiteboard

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.



Moulding materials to make sea creatures



Role play – dinosaur doctors!



Den building



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. From September 2021 we will be also be using the new EYFS baseline assessment.

How do we record children's learning?

- Learning journals
- Tapestry online
- Art folders
- Classroom displays



Transition to Year 1 and beyond

At Ely St John's, we work to ensure that every child is supported as they move from one year group to the next. When your child makes the transition to Year 1 they will have opportunities to meet their new teacher before the summer holidays, visits to their new classroom and parents will have an opportunity to meet the Year 1 team.

Teachers in every year group regularly share information about the curriculum covered in their class and the ways in which progress is assessed, ensuring that parents and carers are fully informed at every step in their child's journey through Ely St John's Primary School. If you are interested in finding out more about how the National Curriculum is taught at ESJ, visit the 'Curriculum' and 'Year Group' pages on our school website.





Please contact the school office if you have any questions about the EYFS curriculum at Ely St John's.

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