

Early Years Foundation Stage - Autumn 2017

The school year in reception begins with a thorough 'Getting To Know You' topic. The children bring in shoe boxes from home filled with all the things that are important to them: toys, books, photographs of family, friends and pets, things they like to collect and items which represent things that they like to do. We use these boxes as transition objects to form a link between home and school and as props to prompt the children into talking about themselves, their family and likes and dislikes.

A lot of the first half of the term is spent getting to grips with school, the routines, the environment and the dos and don'ts of being part of a whole school community. The children will be making their own class rules to make sure everybody feels safe and can all get along with their learning together. The children will have lots of opportunities to talk, explore and socialise laying firm foundations for the year ahead.

The topic will then extend into houses and homes, from "Who lives in my house?" to the traditional tale of The Three Little Pigs. The children will be making masks and props to re-enact the story, read lots of alternative versions and retell the story using puppets and masks they have made themselves. They will also be having a go at building their own houses from a variety of materials - just like the Three Little Pigs.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage the children are very involved with planning their own learning through their own interests and so as we get to know the children's interests the rest of the term will be planned alongside them. So far we know we have a lot of children who are very knowledgeable about all sorts of animals from a polar bear enthusiast to a reptile expert so we will definitely be planning a topic around these areas. Of course, Christmas will be upon us before we know it and there is so much learning, creating and exploring to be done here!