

How does that building stay up?



The wolf huffed, and he puffed, but he couldn't blow the house down! How does that building stay up? How many windows does it have? It's time to find out more about buildings and the materials from which they are made.

This half term, we'll visit our local area to see buildings in different stages of construction. Back in the classroom, we'll handle different building materials, and we'll build structures out of wet sand, construction kits and blocks.

Who can build the tallest tower? We'll also retell the story of *The Three Little Pigs*, practise hammering different surfaces and make mini mud bricks.

In our English lessons, we'll take a walk down a local street, describing what we see, and we'll write about our homes.

Using our maths skills, we'll count houses and put them in the right order, and we'll estimate how many cubes are in different towers.

Working together, we'll build a shelter big enough for us all to sit in, a bridge we can use to cross a given space and a street of colourful houses made from different containers.

We'll also work outdoors on our own 'construction site', building imaginative structures out of a range of materials. We'll also gather resources to build more structures and demolish a wall of cardboard boxes by kicking, rolling and throwing balls.

Family Friday sessions start again on Friday 10th Jan with a shared story time and a video about our new topic – We will get a timetable of all of our Family Friday sessions out to you as soon as they are confirmed.

Areas of learning	Early Learning Goals
Communication and language	Listening and attention; Understanding; Speaking
Physical development	Moving and handling
Personal, social and emotional development	Making relationships
Literacy	Reading; Writing
Mathematics	Numbers; Shape, space and measures
Understanding the world	The world; Technology
Expressive arts and design	Exploring and using media and materials; Being imaginative



We will be starting our new morning routine – we are asking that the F2 Starfish children now say goodbye to their carers outside and enter the unit by themselves with all of their belongings. The children have all become very independent over the last term and should not have any issues doing this, but rest assured, a member of the Foundation team will be there to assist them should they require any assistance. F1 children and carers will be welcomed into the classroom a little later at 9:00am when the unit has become less busy.



Over the last term the children have really got used to bringing their bookbags in every day. Thank you for assisting with this. By bringing their book bag in every day it helps us to read with them whenever we have a spare few minutes or using them when we have extra reading volunteers in to spend time sharing a book. The book bag and reading diary are also a great way of home and school communicating and working together. Please feel free to write messages in the reading diaries to tell us about your child's progress at home or if you have any questions you need to ask.



We like to offer the children and parents the choice of using their own water bottles at school that can be taken home each day and washed. This is a good habit that we happily promote throughout our school. However, we have recently had a lot of water bottles coming in with juice or flavoured water. Whilst we acknowledge that it is sometimes difficult to get children to drink plain water it is recognised that plain water is the healthiest option to keep children hydrated and also keeps their teeth in the healthiest condition. Please could you support us by only putting plain water in their bottles. We can assure you that the children all happily drink water, especially if everyone has got the same choice.



Please could you have a quick look at ALL of your child's uniform to check whether you have a name in everything. During the cold weather the children bring in a lot more items and lose them!