



Forest School November update

The Forest School concept originates in Denmark, originally aimed at pre-school children, where it was found that children who attended Forest School then arrived at primary school with strong social skills, having the ability to work in groups effectively, generally had higher self-esteem and a confidence in their own abilities. These foundations helped them to raise their academic achievement.

Forest School is a unique educational experience and process that offers children the opportunity to succeed and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands on learning experienced in a woodland environment. Children engage in motivating and achievable tasks and activities throughout the year and in almost all weathers. Children play, work with tools, and learn boundaries of behaviour; both physical and social, grow in confidence, self-esteem and motivation whilst developing an understanding of the natural world.

Every Monday in Early years we venture out into the Forest School. We need our waterproofs now as it's very damp and muddy in the forest. We have been thinking about maths this month and repeating patterns. The children were amazing at finding natural things to show us their ideas.



We have been asking and asking if we can build Den's! Mrs Taylor got all of the den building stuff out for a FABULOUS FRIDAY and we really liked it, so last week we asked if we could do it in Forest School. The results were great fun!



Year 4 have been learning about the Vikings so we turned our ship into a Viking long ship. We hung the sail and used another sail to cover the ship to keep their supplies dry and safe when we took sail. There was some bad people who were tied to the nearby tree and even one Viking who was made to walk the plank.



The second group of Forest School Rangers have started to learn the rules of Forest School!

No Picky, no licky, careful with ropes and careful with sticky!

There are more children accessing Forest School this term as after the some reflection, we decided it would be great to get more children into the forest. We now have a Tuesday – Wednesday group and a Thursday – Friday group, meeting for an hour from 2.15 – 3.15pm. We started last week by introducing dens as I hadn't met the children and wanted to plan something that would let them explore the forest fully in their first week. The dens had to be built for a purpose and once everyone had finished we checked them to see if there were indeed water proof!



The children then asked if we could have a have a café? We opened ***“Un Café Vert”*** on Tuesday and we had a fantastic supplier who collected lots of lovely things to use as money and to decorate the nutritious food the children prepared. We talked about what healthy and nutritious means and the children made some lovely grub.



The weather is changing so we are getting muddy so please remember your waterproofs and wellington boots.