

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are again this year pleased to be continuing our Forest School curriculum. However, we have been looking at how we can offer this experience to more children and are excited because we now plan to offer Forest School experiences to all of our Year One and Two children over the course of the year.

Every month, we have planned in one 'Forest School' day that falls on a Tuesday. This will continue throughout the year, unless deemed unsafe due to high winds or torrential rain. We will, of course, have an indoor plan up our sleeve just in case it is needed, so that even when sessions are cancelled on the day, the children can still have a 'Forest School' experience inside.

We are going to start this term with our Year Two children because firstly they are our oldest children, but secondly they missed out on this experience at the end of Year One due to Covid19.

The first session is on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 and will be for our children in Badger Class. So that the children can get plenty of hands on experience from their session, they will be split into three groups and each group of ten children will have a 1.5 hours long session during the day.

The second session will be on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October and this will be for our children in Squirrel Class.

The third date in the Autumn Term is Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>November 2020. We are currently looking to find another date so that both Year Two classes have had two 'Forest School' experiences within this term.

This is an outdoor activity that takes place in all weathers throughout the year. Your child will need to come to school on their 'Forest School' day suitably dressed for a session in the woods, including long trousers, a long sleeved top and a warm jumper. They do not need to wear school uniform on this day. We have waterproof trousers in the school, that all children will wear if the weather demands, but all children need to have a waterproof coat in on the day and wellies that are left in school as we are planning on visiting the woods for many reasons regularly throughout the year.

Whilst it is quite shady in the woods, if it is a sunny day please ensure that your child is wearing sunscreen and brings a sun hat. It is also a good idea to apply insect repellent to your child.

In order to clean our hands, we will use wet wipes and antibacterial gel, please indicate on our electronic permission form if your child is allergic to these.

We will be taking lots of photographs of our woodland activities. Please ensure that your 'IT Permission Forms' (previously sent to the whole school) have been returned. If you are unsure about this, please check with the school office.

If you have any questions or queries about this, please do ask Mrs Gidman or Mrs Badman by emailing them via the school office ... office @brookinfant.school.

We have included the link below to our consent form linked to Forest School activities. Please ensure you complete this online form by Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rmrcEDy7k0GYx5qZ-OTUUGBQH48fPuFJoZTAXBIRko5UM0NXS0U3UVdVNFJNRTQ3WIhPTFZETEhCSS4u

Warm regards,

SCOX

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Mrs Sarah Cox Headteacher Mrs Tracy Gidman Forest School Leader Mrs Lynne Badman Forest School Assistant