

BROOMWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Together we believe. Together we achieve

8th April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may know Outdoor Learning is one of our school priorities and as such we have invested a lot of money in updating our Eco Area, including a new outdoor classroom, and staff training to enable us begin to deliver Forest School lessons to our children. During the Autumn Term Year 1 took part in weekly sessions with Mrs Powell (Trainee Forest School Leader) and during the Spring Term, Year 2 children had the same opportunity. Over the Summer Term Reception children will be introduced to Forest Schools too, we believe that access to the outdoors will allow our children to be much more successful in their learning.

Outdoor Learning comes in many forms and as a school we are in the process of developing our own outdoor curriculum and Forest Schools will be a part of this. There are six core principles to Forest Schools and these are what the sessions are built around:

1. It is a long-term process of regular sessions, rather than one-off or infrequent visits; the cycle of planning, observation, adaptation and review links each session.
2. It takes place in a woodland or natural environment to support the development of a lifelong relationship between the learner and the natural world.
3. It uses a range of learner-centred processes to create a community for being, development and learning.
4. Forest School aims to promote the holistic development of all involved, fostering resilient, confident, independent and creative learners.
5. It offers learners the opportunity to take supported risks appropriate to the environment and to themselves.
6. It is run by qualified Forest School practitioners, who continuously maintain and develop their professional practice

Over the coming term the children in Reception will have an hour and half session, outside, each Tuesday and this will happen regardless of the weather. In order for the children to be able to fully engage in the learning, they will need to be appropriately dressed and warm, despite it being the summer term the children still need to be prepared for all weathers. Please can all Reception children bring a change of clothes with them on a **Tuesday** (and every week after that until the end of the year) but bear in mind they will get wet and muddy so please don't send in their best clothes. They will need the following warm clothes;

- Long sleeved top
- Long trousers
- Waterproof Jacket
- Waterproof trousers (optional)
- Hat and suncream
- Wellies (this one is essential as the field is very wet and muddy)

On Tuesday 25th April, they will just have an introduction and be told what they will be doing and what they will need to bring. If you have appropriate things already feel free to send them in but they will not start properly until **Tuesday 3rd May** and so you have plenty of time to pick up anything extra you may need.

Achieve, believe and succeed for a brighter future.



Please can you also give consent on the ~~~~~form to give permission for the children to take part in the Forest School Activities. There is an element of risk but this is done in a supported way and is fully risk assessed. Please speak to your class teacher if you have any questions.

I'm sure the children are going to have a fabulous time and Tuesday will become their new favourite day!

Regards

Allison McCarthy
Deputy Head Teacher

