31.8.21

Dear Class 2 Parents,

Your child has been selected to take part in a programme called Forest School. Forest School is an opportunity for your child to experience nature and the outdoor environment in a safe, secure and hands on way. **The sessions will take place on a Tuesday afternoon starting on 7th September 7 weeks.**

Session 1 - Tuesday 7.9.21

Session 2 – Tuesday 14.9.21

Session 3 – Tuesday 21.9.21

Session 4 – Tuesday 28.9.21

Session 5 – Tuesday 5.10.21

Session 6 – Tuesday 12.10.21

Session 7 – Tuesday 26.10.21

Our ‘forest’ is a small wooded area a short walk from the school. Within the ‘forest’ is an area known as the fire circle where children can socialise and where we will have campfires. We will also use a range of tools in this area under 1:1 supervision.

A mixture of trees can be found in the ‘forest’ alongside bushes and wild flowers. In addition to the trees and plants there are old wood piles to attract insects and small birds to our site. The children are encouraged to investigate & explore but also to respect all living things.

Research suggests that children learn best from first hand experiences. Exploring, playing and problem solving within the forest school aims to encourage learning using a range of activities (both designed by the leader and instigated by the children themselves). Building a sense of independence, high self-esteem and team work are important parts of forest school, but health and safety considerations are always of paramount importance.

The ‘forest’ area we use can be quite wet and has a lot of sticks and plants underfoot. A lot of hard work has already gone into managing the area (and is an ongoing commitment) but in order to ensure children are sufficiently protected from the weather, the forest school environment and can participate fully and comfortably in each session we advise the following clothing. (This clothing may get muddy so old clothes are best.)

Children must wear long sleeves and long trousers in **both** winter and summer to protect them from insect bites, sunburn, stinging nettles and thorns.

Forest School Clothing

* Long sleeved top/jumper
* Long trousers
* Warm hat or sun cap and gloves
* Wellies
* Waterproof coat
* Waterproof trousers (or an all in one)

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Forest School please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Litchfield, Ms Cook or your child’s class teacher for more information.

We look forward to working with your child in the ‘forest’ this term and hope they can share their experiences with you. Please complete and return the attached consent form.

In order for these sessions to go ahead we need a parent volunteer to help with the sessions. If you are available to help please indicate on the slip below.

Kind regards

Mrs Litchfield

**Consent Form**

**Activity:** Forest School **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Child’s Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Age:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Information about your child:**

1. Are there any medical conditions requiring medical treatment, including medication? Yes / No

If Yes please give details:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Please outline any dietary requirements:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Does your child have any known allergies? Yes / No

If Yes please give details:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. If your child has an inhaler for Asthma they should be carried at all times. Please ensure an inhaler is in school and in date.
2. As an important part of our evaluation we use video and photo evidence which we sometimes share on the website and twitter. Please state whether you are happy for us to do so: Yes / No
3. I would like to volunteer as a helper from 1pm – 3.15pm every Tuesday for the duration of class 2 Forest School. – Yes / No

**Parental/Carer Declaration**

I agree to my child participating in Forest School activities including tool use and camp fires. I understand the need for my child to behave in a responsible manner in order to take part in such activities.

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD COMES WITH APPROPRIATE CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR. SEE CLOTHING SECTION.

I agree to my child having appropriate medical care in the event of an accident.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_