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Friday 23rd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Forest School

I am delighted to let you know that Forest School will be starting after half term for all children from years 1 to 6. We have appointed Mrs MacLean to be our Forest School teacher and she has sent all our children and families a message, which is attached for you to read.

When will the sessions be happening?

Years 1 to 6 will participate in a Forest School session every three weeks; this gives every child an opportunity to go into the woods regularly and experience the different seasons. Forest School days will be Monday and Wednesday; children in reception will begin Forest School during the summer term. After half term, Year 1 will have their session on Tuesday 3rd November and Year 2 on Wednesday 4th November 2020. **Please read the newsletter to check for updates.**

Your child will need to come to school “Forest School Ready”

It is really important that the children are warm and dry so that their experience is as enjoyable as possible. We are moving towards colder weather so do ensure the children are wearing lots of layers of clothes, with wellington boots and a thick warm coat, which they need to wear under a waterproof (no denim please). Also please bring an extra jumper, an extra pair of socks, a warm hat and some gloves in your child's bag.

Please ensure everything the children bring is named and that they wear old clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. If any parents have difficulties obtaining clothes or boots for Forest School, please speak to myself or the school office.

This is an amazing opportunity for all of our children and I am sure that everyone will be very excited.

Yours sincerely,



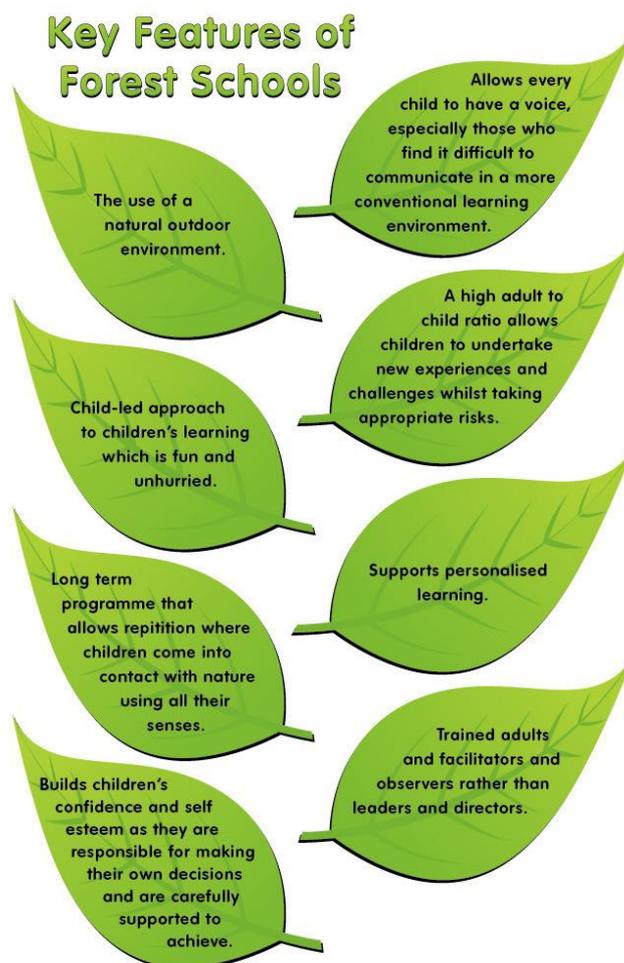
Isabel M Ramsay

Consultant Head Teacher

Forest School at Temple Grove Academy

My name is Hannah MacLean and I am absolutely delighted to be introducing Forest School at Temple Grove Academy. I found out about Forest Schools after moving to Kent five years ago after teaching in London for 11 years. I loved the ethos and the opportunities it gave children to spend time in nature. By giving children time in the woods they learn to be creative, resilient and independent, whilst doing really fun things like cooking on a fire, using real tools to make things and climbing trees. I did my Forest School training in 2017 and have worked in a Forest School Pre-School for the last 3 years taking children aged 2-4 outside in all weathers, even when the temperature was -5!

Why is Forest School so great?



What will your child be doing in a Forest School session?

The best thing about Forest School is they will get to decide what they would like to do! There will be swings, hammocks, bug hunting equipment and bird watching equipment always out. Each session will be planned to the children's interests from the previous session and the season, for example in autumn we would try and incorporate the leaves and the things we find in the woods into our learning. In winter we would be playing lots of games and encouraging them to stay warm by moving around a lot, in spring we would be planting and growing things and in summer enjoying the weather and making things.

