



Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017

### Forest School

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### Ethos:

Here at Caton St Paul's we are very fortunate to have extensive and varied grounds that can be used during the school day. The outdoors and all it has to offer in the way of exploration and learning new skills is a fantastic opportunity for our children. Throughout the year they will have opportunities to discover the outdoors, learning simple bush craft skills and creating new experiences that they can use to develop their knowledge of the world, creative writing skills and a chance to apply numeracy, problem solving and geographical skills in a meaningful team building environment.

Since developing our new forest school's area we have been very lucky to see the children receiving the full enjoyment of this space and have already developed many learning opportunities and taken many photographs along the way.

#### Clothing

Upon discussion it has been brought to my attention that it is not clear about what is needed with regards to clothing for a forest school session. The aim is to ensure we protect the children's school uniform by either covering their clothing with a mud/rain suit or water proofs and wellies, or they are able to change into some old clothes which they do not mind getting muddy! The idea being this enables all children to fully engage keeping cost to a minimum.

#### Routines

Each class will have a different routine with regards to the storage of the kit sent in, some classrooms do not have the capacity to hold on to the kit all week in which case it will be requested to be sent in on the forest schools day and returned home that evening. Others classes are lucky enough to have that space and so they may have stated that kit will be kept in school and will only be returned when staff feel it is time for you to have the joy of washing your child's clothes, which although maybe very muddy, please remember memories have been made!

It is thanks to your support that we are able to take the children outside and enable them to extend their skills, knowledge, friendships and wellbeing further. I know that all the children are already benefitting from the activities outside and I am sure they will be excited to tell you all about it!

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact either myself or the school office.

Thank you all for your continued help and support.

Many Thanks,

Mrs Jo Riley

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