

Dear nursery school parents and carers,

There are two notice boards this week. The fire gives brief requests and information about forest school.

Forest School Notice Board

We will be starting Forest School this Friday 26th Nov. See dates below.

Clothes :



On forest school days please come dressed for being outdoors: as many layers on the bottom half as the top and double socks / good boots, gloves and a hat on cold days; in your own waterproofs if you have them but if not, we will use ours; be prepared for getting mucky!

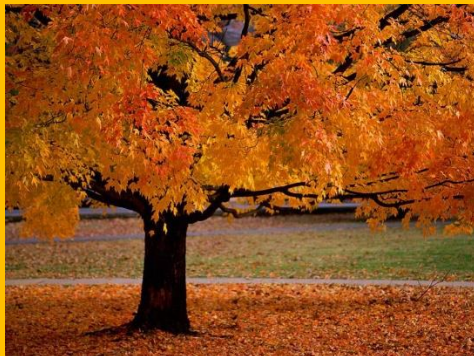
Requests:



Please read the forest school risk assessments which are attached and be ready to sign to say you have read them at school. They describe how we keep children safe during typical forest school activities.

We would also like parents to sign up to be a Forest Friday Volunteer. From the start of the session for one to two hours come and join your child in their forest school group at the top of the garden.

Dates and times:



Red and Orange Group

Friday 26th November
Friday 10th December

Green and Blue Group

Friday 3rd December
Friday 17th December

Important notices:



There is a forest school notice board up inside the cloakroom which will display the experiences your child is having each week, and I will keep you updated in the newsletter.



Important notices:

Your Child's Personal Information Update

This week we will be checking that our contact information; parental responsibility information; and, our collection and photo permissions are all up to date. We need you to let us know if there have been any changes to these.

Requests:

Toys

Please remember to keep toys and cuddly toys at home unless necessary and discussed with the team.

We lose many small parts: ladybirds, coloured blocks, pegs, magnets, cars etc. etc. All these things are desirable and innocently end up in small pockets. If they do come home, we would be extremely grateful if you can bring them back. We have such nice sets of things – but only any good if kept as a set. (Last week I think 8 of the 10 large ladybirds put out flew away home!)

School News Notice Board

Important information Update.

The gate

From this Monday going forwards the gate will be shut from 9.10am each morning. If you arrive later than this time you will need to come in through Reception and Alison or Helen will come and let you in through the inside door.

Housekeeping:

Bag Contents

Please remember to supply nappies, pull-ups and wipes in your child's bag, if needed. As the weather gets colder, keep spare clothes replenished and labelled so that we can change any child who gets wet during their play and exploration. Always hand medicine or cream to a member of staff and fill in a medication form.

Last week's learning

Our Poetry Basket Poem this week was



The poem helped us focus on experiencing the autumn leaves which are filling up the garden. We raked, played, collected and arranged leaf art.

The Gallery



We also continued experiments with mixing autumn colours – yellow oranges, red!

Last week's opportunities for mathematical thinking



Emptying the water tray is a chance to think about capacity.

Watching the water level lower in the tray as the bucket fills up allows talk around what is full and empty and predicting if all the water from one container is too much for the other.

Repeating descriptive mathematical observations as we work teaches new words in a clear context and allows time to understand and take them up as your own: more than, not as

much as, too much, fuller, more, less, not as full, nearly empty, empty.



Making your own hulk mask involves thinking about shape, drawing shape, following a sequence of directions such as "fold in half", check it's the same size and applying your knowledge of size – too big, too small or just right.

A tea party outside involves matching the number of cups to the number of people. How many do we need? Have we got enough? Can you check that? Can you prove it? What shall we do if someone else wants to play? How many plates? Count them out, count them back in, moving one for each number. What number comes next? How many more do we need?



At the water table, playing alongside a friend is an absorbing uninterrupted mathematical investigation. Supporting children to play and think might mean not interrupting them with questions or comments. Getting your own scoop and measuring cylinder allows you to come alongside and

notice when to skilfully introduce challenge to the investigation.

At the right moment ponder “I wonder how many scoops of water fit into the cylinder?” If your child takes up this line of thought, a mathematically rich conversation can follow as you work on the answer together.



Our Outlast

Community Blocks have maths written all over them. The planks have one, two, three, four or eight holes and the blocks similarly have nobbles which fit in the holes. As we build adults model their correct names “one hole plank” or “a four block”. Children repeat the language for themselves; calling names, sorting number by sight, seeing pattern, choosing the same size, longer or shorter units.

Size and weight are linked to number. The 8 blocks are long and heavy and you need two people to carry them! If you are really strong you can carry double eight!





Playing with lots of loose parts develops seeing links between number and pattern. This transient art experience involves arranging pieces in repeating pattern, array and order. We can ask questions like “what number can you see in your picture?” “Tell me about the pattern you have made.” We can play at counting out, placing a number of things inside another, repeating a sequence. Our brains naturally arrange loose parts into an order. You can see mathematical facts quickly when loose parts are arranged in patterns. Recognising number, seeing how many lots of the same there are and counting groups are all types of thinking that practice and are the beginning of calculation skills.

This Week's Poetry Basket Poem

I'm Going To Build a Little House

I'm going to build a little house with windows big and bright
A chimney tall with curling smoke
Drifting out of sight
In winter when the cold wind blows
Or when I hear a storm
I'll go and sit in my little house and I'll be safe and warm.



Best Wishes for a warm and happy week
from
ACE Centre Nursery School