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Headteacher: Mr Iain Horner

14th February 2019

Dear parents/carers,

We are very pleased to inform you that, during the second half of the Spring Term, Apple Class will be taking part in 'Forest School' sessions. As a qualified Forest School leader, I will be running the sessions. Our Forest School will be taking place on Wednesday afternoons, starting on 28th February. We have been kindly allowed the use of a great piece of land in the village, which is in easy walking distance for the children.



Forest School started in Scandinavia and is a way of learning in a woodland environment. It provides the space where people can develop socially, emotionally and physically through play, following individual and preferred learning styles. For more information, please visit <http://www.forestschoolassociation.org/>.

At Chesterton Forest School, we will aim to nurture our children so that they can reach their full potential. We believe that it is vitally important to look at the whole child when considering their education and we think the holistic experience they receive as a member of our Forest School will equip them with the skills to become confident in their own abilities: in the classroom, outdoors and beyond. Forest School gives children the time and space necessary to develop the tools and skills to become resilient, independent and inquisitive learners. Our core aim is to engage children in the natural environment and to have fun. As we all know, when children have a purpose to their learning and are fully engaged they will achieve far more, In Chesterton Forest School, the learning continues beyond the classroom.

As Forest School is an all year round and all-weather activity, it is vitally important that the correct clothing is worn by children and adults alike. We ensure that all children are suitably clothed for all weather. Parents will need to provide their children with a waterproof jacket, waterproof trousers or an all in one waterproof suit, wellington boots, hat and gloves. It is also important that children are provided with any other equipment that is appropriate to the season. Even with all this personal protective equipment, it is possible that children can get their clothes wet or dirty; therefore in addition they also need to be provided with a change of clothes (this could be their school PE kit).

To help with the running of Forest School, we would like to ask for a parent volunteer to attend each session. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mr Craven or the school office, where there will be a sign-up sheet.

Adult volunteers who attend Forest School need to make sure that they are dressed appropriately for the weather conditions, including a waterproof jacket and sensible footwear. Walking boots are advisable but not essential.

Kind regards,

Mr Craven

