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Headteacher: Mr Rory Gratwohl

2nd November 2026

Dear Rowan Class Parents/Carers,

We are very pleased to inform you that, from **Thursday 5th November** until **Thursday 10th December** (6 weeks), Rowan Class will be taking part in Forest School sessions.

A qualified Forest School leader, Sally-Ann Woodrow, will be running the sessions, supported by Rowan Class staff. We are extremely grateful to Sally-Ann for giving up her time to enable these sessions to take place.

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/. 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.

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. At 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. Pupils will need: a change of clothes from home, including tracksuit bottoms and a thick jumper; wellies (which should already be in school) and a waterproof coat. Please check the forecast before sending your child to school. Even with all this personal protective equipment, it is possible that children can get their clothes wet or dirty and whatever the weather the children will need to protect their legs.

Kind regards, Mr Rory Gratwohl

Respect Compassion Resilience Hope Integrity Humility Matthew 7:25

Building Firm Foundations For Life