

# FOREST SCHOOL AT CARDINAL NEWMAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

It has been a muddy and wet term at Forest school, but that has not stopped us exploring our new topic 'Trees.'



Whether we live in the country, or the city trees are so much part of our landscape and yet we can get so used to their presence that we forget about just how much wildlife and environmental impact they have. How many of us actually know an Elder tree from a Lime? Beech from a Birch?

To develop our knowledge, we have:

- Listened to folk tales about trees and created our own.
- Identified the types of trees from their leaves.
- Created clay faces for the trees.
- Listened to the tree's song using tuning forks.
- Used blindfolds to see if we can recognise a tree by touch.
- Gone on a sky walk in their branches using mirrors.
- Planted saplings on the school field.

Over the course of the term our children have learnt so much about the trees in our woodland; we may have even climbed a few so that we can fully appreciate them!

## WHY WE DO IT?

On their Forest school day, children are given opportunities to gain through hands on learning experiences in our Woodland Area. Learning is achieved through playing and exploring, as well as the teaching of skills and knowledge. We aim to provide a balance of adult led and child-initiated activities, so that the children can develop their understanding of the natural world and their connection to it as well as developing key skills such as independence, problem solving and resilience.

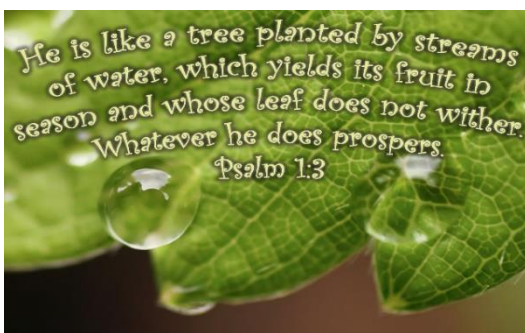


## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### What should they wear?

Below is a list of items your child will need for their 'Forest School' day.

- Waterproof coat
- Wellies or old shoes
- Clean dry shoes for inside the school
- Old, warm clothes
- Long sleeve tops and long trousers (even in warm weather please)



### Wellies Wanted

If you have any waterproof coats/ trousers that are no longer needed or old wellies in KS2 sizes, please bring them in so we have spares for the children.

### Mud Exploration

We have a wonderful mud exploration area in our woodland area. If you have any old pots and pans, kitchen utensils, jugs or buckets, wooden spoons we would love them as the children love creating mud creations, whether it be mud pies or mud sculptures!

### Volunteers

If you would like to volunteer to help in our sessions or to help us maintain and improve the pond area, please contact the school office.