

Woodlands Academy of Learning

Forest School & Outdoor Learning

News

Volume 11 Issue 1



Year One Helping the Little People.

The 'Little People' in Rough Wood love a good party. But the days now are getting shorter and colder. So it makes it difficult to party in the open air. Year One were very thoughtful and worked together to make the 'Little People' some shelters so that they could party on into the night. The children decided to use sticks, leaves, moss, grass and even found some bark to make the roofs waterproof. Not satisfied with that the children began to make furniture and gardens. They even found acorn cups so that the 'Little People' could have a drink and apples for them to eat. I think the children would have loved to stay for the party, but it was getting late and the 'Little People' are extremely shy. I think that they were really impressed with your shelters Year One, well done.



Saplings Make a Home for the Little Pigs.

Our Tree House children have been learning about the Three Little Pigs. So in Forest School we made our own house of sticks for the pigs. The activity involved working together as a team and transporting the long shelter poles down to the 'Nook'. The children enjoyed making the shelter and were happy to sit inside and enjoy a well earned snack. The children worked really hard and I think the wolf would have found it hard to blow their house down.

Well done Saplings great teamwork.



Important Dates:

Year three Forest School—
Wednesday afternoons.

Miss Adam's class will be
5th & 19th November and
3rd December.

Miss Edmund's Class will be
12th & 26th November and
the 10th December.

Forest School Rangers for this half term.

Nursery— Elsie, Darcy

Reception— Hero, Reya

Year One— Ollie, Sienna W

Year Two— Ava, Albie

Saplings— Finley, Xander

Year Two Naturally Artistic.

Autumn is a great time to do outdoor crafts as there is an abundance of fruits, seeds and leaves. So this half term Year Two had a go at making portraits using natural materials found around the Woodlands site. We looked carefully at the environment first to make sure we knew what was not safe to use as we always leave berries for the birds and fungi for the foxes. Then the children worked in teams to create their own pictures. The children had to not only choose their resources but also discuss together what they wanted to do. The children worked hard all through the session and had great fun making their faces look funny. They were all super pictures that made everyone smile. Woodlands has some very talented artists.



Nursery Showing Off Autumns Crowning Glory.

There is nothing like the colour of autumn leaves. So Nursery made use of them to make their own autumn crowns. The children selected their leaves very carefully, looking at their colours and shapes. And then they made their designs on their crowns using magic tape. As you can see they made a great job of them and they look very regal. Great Job Nursery.



Reception Catching Dreams.

In Forest School we do lots of different craft activities to improve our fine motor skills, ready for writing. So this half term the Reception children have been having a go at making dream catchers. To do this they have had a frame and threaded different colour strings on to it. This may sound easy, but if you pull too tight it breaks and if your string is too loose it gets tangled up. This activity takes lots of patience and practice and I'm sure you will agree Reception have made some lovely dream catchers.



Conservation

This year has been a mast year for trees. This is when they produce an abundance of seeds, more than usual. Research has shown when trees are under stress they produce more fruits and seeds. And with the temperatures last summer we were all a bit stressed. Now is the perfect time to help nature by planting tree seeds. The seeds will be fine outdoors, just protect them from squirrels and mice. Three horse chestnut trees in our 'Nook' were grown from conkers brought from Hampton Court Palace. They are now taller than the adults and we can't wait to see them flower. So growing tree seeds is really easy, why not give it a try.



What to Look Out For.

As the weather starts to get colder look out for visiting birds from other countries. It is now that we will see waxwings, fieldfares and lots of different water fowl that come here from colder countries to enjoy our mild winters. So keep your eyes open and see what you can spot on your walks in nature.

