

Y5 - Forest School and outdoor learning in autumn

During any session we look out for and celebrate those children who are **helpful**, **respectful** and **engaged** in the tasks, **responding thoughtfully** to instructions, **modelling safe skills** and being **positive** in competitive aspects like our team games.

The beginning of the autumn term saw us establish our Forest School Ethos and routines. The children named our Forest School room 'The Inside Out Room'

As part of the introduction to Forest School the children learnt essential skills including putting up tarp shelters, fire lighting and safe use of tools.

Each session began with a team game or a problem-solving activity followed by an introduction to a new skill. I am really pleased to see children using these skills within their independent learning. The children have had a great start in their first term of Forest School; as part of their responsibility they used tools to clear the pathways within the Forest School base camp at The Old Park Plantation, this was greatly received by all the staff and children, thank you!

They have used the Kelly Kettle and made a honey and lemon drink, mint tea and made a fire to cook popcorn and even toasted marshmallows. They have all been interested in making fire, they have worked really hard and shown high levels of determination and perseverance, problem solving and team work to try and get the fires started; sometimes with success but sometimes without. They have loved using tools and have made elder pencils, kazoo whistles and bow and arrows. They have enjoyed learning different knots to put up tarp shelters and have also begun to show an interest in making debris shelters. The children have used natural resources and different techniques to create pieces of artwork. They look fantastic and they will be making a Forest School learning journal at the end of the year to display all their work.



Charlie demonstrated a clove hitch knot



