



BROADWATER
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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4th September 2026

FOREST SCHOOL Year 1 – Dove and Robin Class

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are incredibly excited about introducing on site Forest School and the opportunities it will provide for our children. Year 1 will complete their sessions on Friday mornings with Mr Liversage this term, with Dove class starting on 11th September and then Robin class from the 23rd October. Across the sessions, your child will engage with the Forest School ethos, being involved in fire lighting, outdoor craft, nature games and much more

The dates for each class sessions are below. Please make note of these:

Dove Class: Autumn 1

- 11th September
- 18th September
- 25th September
- 2nd October
- 9th October
- 16th October

Robin Class: Autumn 2

- 23rd October
- 6th November
- 13th November
- 20th November
- 4th December
- 11th December

On their Forest School Friday's, **please can you send your child into school in their forest school clothes** already and wearing trainers. They will need to bring suitable footwear for Forest School (eg walking boots or wellies) in a bag to change into before the session. In addition, **they will need their PE kits in a bag to change into ready for afternoon PE lessons**. Forest school will take place in all weathers, so it is important to send in your child with the correct kit. (see detailed advice below) These must be items you do not mind getting very wet and muddy!

Turn your ear to wisdom and apply your heart to understanding (PROVERBS 2:2)

They will also need waterproof coat and waterproof trousers (if possible) for when the weather is wet. They will be required to wear long trousers and wellies/boots during all months for safety reasons. Please ensure all items are clearly named. An empty carrier bag is always handy to get dirty items home.

Here is a check list of everything needed each Friday of Forest School:

- Come to school wearing forest school clothes (with trainers on)
- Suitable footwear (eg walking boots/wellies) in a separate bag
- PE kit in a bag ready to change into.
- Name all items
- Advisable to send an empty carrier bag in case of muddy/wet clothes
- Hat and gloves (weather dependant)
- Waterproofs and a warm coat are essential (weather dependent)

Attached to this letter is a copy of the complete clothing list suggested for a safe and comfy time in Forest School depending on the seasons.

PAYMENT

As previously communicated, in order to cover the cost of running these Forest School sessions, we are asking for payment **of £4.20 per session per child to make this possible.** For the full six-session programme across a half term, this will be £25. This will help cover the cost of the Forest School leader and a portion of the resources. Payments can be made via the MCAS payment app, and will be visible early next week. We ask that payments be made by the 1st October please.

We look forward to seeing the impact these sessions will bring to the children's learning experience.

Thank you for your continued support

Mr Morrissey and the Year 1 team

FOREST SCHOOL FULL CLOTHING LIST

Below is an idea of what will be needed for our Forest School sessions, these are useful for our normal sessions during the colder months. We often talk about layering clothing but what does it actually mean and why is it important? Layering means that clothes can be put on and taken off when necessary to keep a comfortable body temperature. Air is trapped in between the different layers and helps provide insulation. The outer layers can be removed if an individual is feeling too hot allowing the body temperature to drop to a comfortable level. Frequently children either wear too much clothing or clothing that is too bulky. This may prevent the child from moving easily and detracts from their ability to participate in outdoor activities. Keeping a base and mid layer on prevents the body temperature dropping too much when outer layers are removed. A comfortable body temperature prevents sweating during physical activity, this is important because once the activity stops the feeling of damp from sweat can make you cold. Getting the layers of clothing right really enables children to access their outdoor provision and forest school activities.

- Base layer - The base layer is the layer closest to your skin
- Mid layer - is to capture warmth through trapped air
- Top layer – is to provide extra warmth
- Outer waterproof layer – to protect from damp, mud, wind and cold
- Protection for extremities – head, hands and feet
- Sun protection

AUTUMN/WINTER/EARLY SPRING TERM

During this time of year, the children need to be prepared for chilly and often wet sessions. On forest school days each child should wear

BASE LAYER Vest or thermal top Tights or thermal leggings

MID LAYER Long sleeved T-shirt top Fleece top/jumper Leggings/trousers (preferably a thicker type material for really cold weeks)

TOP LAYER – for really cold weeks Thicker fleece /jacket

WATERPROOF LAYER waterproof jacket Waterproof trousers

EXTREMITIES FOOTWEAR Tights or socks – two pairs of socks in the colder weeks are advised, feet get cold in wellies, also ensure you have a suitable size that will fit two pairs of socks – if the boot is too tight it will also make the feet colder.

HEAD AND HANDS Wool hat and scarf/snood Gloves/mittens

SPRING / SUMMER TERM

At this time of year, the weather can of course be warm and sunny however it can often feel cooler in the woods and can be damp on the ground even during a sunny spell. Therefore, please ensure they come prepared. Please note full length sleeves and trousers must be worn.

BASE LAYER T-shirt top (long sleeves please)

MID LAYER Fleece top/jumper Leggings/trousers to be tucked into socks (no shorts please, children must have full length trousers)

OUTER WATERPROOF LAYER waterproof jacket/trousers /dungarees socks (would advise two pairs of socks, feet get cold in wellies, be guided by the weather)

Sun hat Sun cream