



NAFFERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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17th September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you should be aware, as a school, we are trying to develop as Forest School programme. With this, and the Forest School Leader's course which I am currently working on, in mind, we have an exciting opportunity to take the children to a local woodland to develop a range of bushcraft, survival and science skills.

Firstly, we will develop a range of skills at school in our own developing woodland through a series of 3 afternoon sessions. These will be on 20/9/18, 27/9/18 & 4/10/18. To follow this, we have also arranged to then visit Burton Agnes Hall's woodland for 3 afternoons to further practise and develop these skills. On these days we will leave school at 9.15am and return at 12.30pm (we will have a packed lunch at the woodland before we leave). The dates of these visits will be: 11/10/18, 16/10/18 & 23/10/18 - please put them in your calendar / diary / phone – these are all Thursdays except for 16/10/18 which is a Tuesday.

For those of you who have visited the hall before, you will know that this is a safe, contained, natural venue where our staff can run a range of fun and exciting activities in the outdoors. Whilst there, the children will learn about, and have the chance to experience, shelter building and fire building & lighting. They will also learn about general survival techniques. Not only do we intend for these opportunities to be interesting and enjoyable, but that they will develop, amongst other things, teamwork and co-operation skills, and other life skills that they will retain for the future. In linking with our Science work, we will also be identifying and classifying the vast range of wildlife in the woodland. Through our visits, we also hope to inspire the children in their class work and to write some intriguing pieces.

Due to the very practical, outdoor and active nature of the sessions both on the school site and at Burton Agnes Hall, the children need to dress in warm clothes (non-uniform, warm layers but NO jeans and clothes which you don't mind getting dirty, smoky and possibly wet if the weather turns!) and a pair of walking boots (or wellies with thick warm socks.) The children will need a waterproof jacket and possibly waterproof trousers too if available. For the Burton Agnes Hall sessions, we will be eating lunch outdoors too so the children will require a packed lunch and drink (no glass bottles please; a warm drink in a thermos flask is welcome too. No chocolate please – it makes a real mess if it melts!) If we (including the children) can start a good enough fire, we may even be able to provide the children with a hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows on some of the days. The sessions will be spent completely outdoors in the woodland, so please take this into consideration when packing your child/ren off for the day! Last year, we even took the Year 6 class when it snowed! There is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing!

With the cost of transport and entry to Burton Agnes, we will have a total cost of around £500 to cover. Therefore we are asking for a contribution of £12 per child to cover some of the cost of all 3 visits (That's only about £4 per trip!) The remainder of the cost will be subsidised by the school fund and the school sports premium. Please return this with the slip overleaf by **FRIDAY 28th SEPTEMBER** at the latest. Please note that if sufficient contributions are not received, these visits will not be able to go ahead.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Saltonstall
Forest School Leader



PARENTAL CONSENT FORM

Event: SPARROWHAWKS' visits to Burton Agnes / Forest School

Dates: In school: 20/9/18, 27/9/18 & 4/10/18
At Burton Agnes: 11/10/18, 16/10/18 & 23/10/18

(Please tick)

- I agree to my son/daughter _____ (Name) taking part in the above mentioned activity on the dates listed and, having read the letter, agree to his/her participation to any or all of the activities described.
- I acknowledge the need for obedience and responsible behaviour on his/her part and that, given the nature of the activities at the Forest School, unsuitable behaviour may result in non-participation.
- I confirm that the medical information held by the school for him/her and emergency contact details are up to date and I will inform the school of any changes prior to this trip.
- I enclose £12.00 towards the cost of the visits.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

