

TEMPLEWOOD SCHOOL  
Pentley Park,  
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Interim Headteacher: Mrs A Abley  
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the coming weeks Year 5 will have the opportunity to experience our very own Forest School on Tuesday afternoons. At Templewood School, we are lucky to have extensive grounds, including woodlands, a pond and large playing fields. We are keen to maximise opportunities for outdoor learning at Templewood, and as part of this desire, we will be implementing the Forest School programme for the children.

We believe that Forest School will benefit the holistic development of children. The Forest School approach to learning will enable us to:

- Offer stimulating and active lessons,
- Encourage enthusiasm and ownership of learning,
- Develop cross-curricular links to maximise learning,
- Provide opportunities for children to learn in different ways,
- Inspire children to believe in themselves and learn through trial and error,
- Encourage ownership of learning which is linked to their own interests and experiences,
- Better utilise the learning opportunities afforded by the school grounds,
- Develop more challenging activities.

As the children are likely to get messy on these days please ensure that they have wellies in school and have a waterproof jacket, and ideally, waterproof trousers. They may also prefer to change from school uniform after lunch, into old clothes or clothes they do not mind getting messy. Please ensure clothing is clearly named and will provide warmth and consists of long trousers and long-sleeved tops. It is also a good idea to provide a hat and a pair of gloves. Due to the outdoor nature of Forest School it is also a good idea to provide an extra plastic bag for any muddy and wet clothing.

In order to make these sessions as successful as possible we will need as many volunteers as possible, if you are able to offer your help on one occasion or all this would be very much appreciated, please speak to the School Office.

This is such an exciting adventure for us all, if you do have any questions please speak to me or Mr Holloway and we will help you as best we can.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Marshall  
Forest School and Early Years Practitioner

