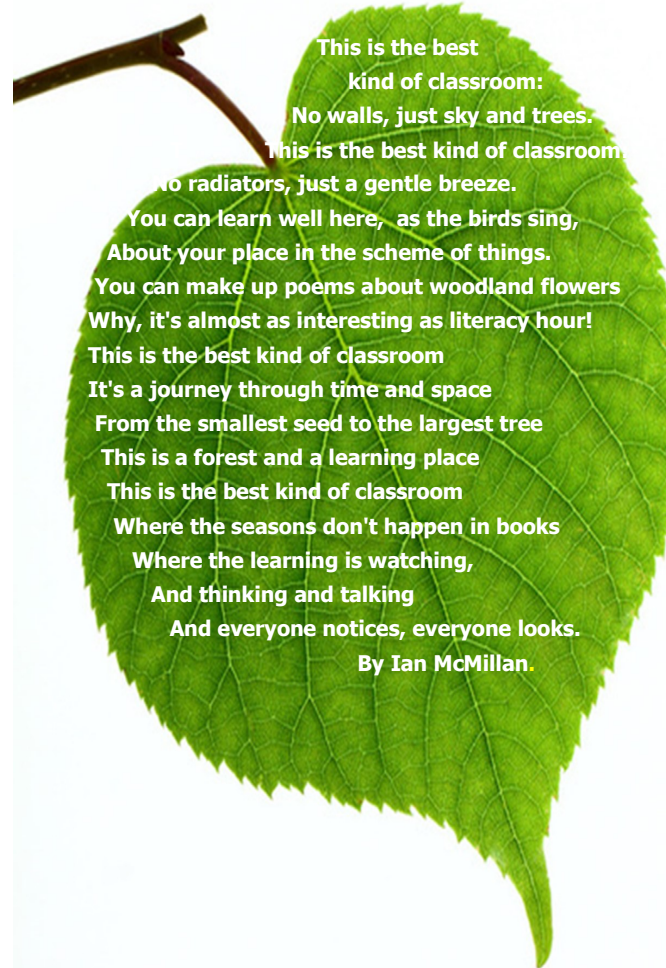




Our Nature Garden and Forest School Site

Forest School is an inspirational process, that offers ALL learners regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment.

Here at The Orchards Primary Academy, Forest school sessions are child initiated and learner led, over seen by a level 3 qualified Forest School Practitioner.



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The Orchards Primary Academy



Forest School

Information for Parents and Carers

The Ethos of Forest school

Forest school has a holistic approach, to educating the whole child, not just focused

on the academic outcome. **Building a den**
Forest School aims to foster and create a “whole” person that is confident, self-aware and thoughtful of the needs of others.

Through a series of play based sessions in the outdoors children’s social, physical, intellectual, creative, emotional and spiritual needs are nurtured and developed to promote their self-esteem.



What activities will your child be doing?

Sessions are very much led by what the children want to do, so the limit is really up to the child’s imagination.

Activities could be:

- Whittling
- Sawing
- Fire lighting
- Cooking on the fire
- Climbing trees
- Building dens
- Digging in the mud
- Creating artworks
- Exploring
- Investigating flora and fauna
- Making swings
- Obstacle courses
- Hide and seek
- Bush craft



Creating a house for a fairy creature

Safety First!

All forest School activities are risk assessed. Your child may come home with a bump or a scrape, but they will also have a huge grin and a wonderful sense of achievement. Forest school builds children’s resilience and they become risk aware, not risk averse.

“Play outdoors teaches young people how to deal with risk and without this they are ill equipped to deal with working life.”

– Judith Hackitt, former chair of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)

What should my child wear?

Be prepared for all weathers!

The school will provide the children with wet weather outer clothes in the form of waterproof trousers and raincoat.

They should have arms and legs covered at all times, to protect from brambles and branches.

Jogging bottoms, fleece tops, scarves and hat in the winter, extra socks and gloves.

Most important of all though is sensible, stout footwear. Wellies, boots or trainers, that may come home muddy!