

9<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers of children in 3 Oak,

We are fortunate this year to be able to extend our Forest School provision at Branfil to include children in Year 3. In Year 3 your child will attend one Forest School session every other week for a whole term. Forest School is a child led approach to outdoor learning which supports holistic development. Whilst participating in an exciting and engaging range of games and activities, children will be supported with developing their self-confidence and self-esteem, social skills, physical skills, creativity, resilience and perseverance. Forest School also provides opportunities for children to see a range of Year 3 Science objectives in action and provides many experiences that are relevant to other areas of the wider school curriculum.

Forest School sessions will take place with half a class participating at a time and will be led by Mrs Gafford, who will be supported by volunteers from the school community. Children will have six sessions this term (see dates below). **On their Forest School session days, children will need to come to school dressed in clothes appropriate for participating in Forest School and bring a change of clothes with them to change into if needed. The spare change of clothes can be left in school for the spring term.** It is all part of the fun that children may get messy so please ensure these are old clothes. Children will need to wear:

- Long trousers
- A long sleeved top
- Jumper
- Warm socks
- Wellies (children should come to school in trainers and bring their wellies in a bag to change into before their Forest School session)
- Hat and scarf
- A raincoat

We end our sessions with a drink of hot chocolate or squash and a biscuit, so please let your child's class teacher know if your child has any dietary requirements that mean we would need to provide an alternative.

Because Forest School offers a great outdoors and active learning experience, during this term your child will only be completing 1 PE session each week with their class teacher. The table below helps you understand which days your child will need to attend school in either school uniform, PE kit or Forest School attire.

The 6 sessions of Forest School commences the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> January and will end the week beginning 27<sup>th</sup> March. Please note from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April, children will go back to their current timetable of PE on Monday and Wednesday.

**Please read this table carefully:**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
School Uniform	School Uniform	P.E. Kit	See Below	School Uniform

Date	
12.1.23	Forest School
19.1.23	School Uniform
26.1.23	Forest School
2.2.23	School uniform
9.2.23	Forest School
Half Term	
23.2.23	School uniform
2.3.23	Forest School
9.3.23	School uniform
16.3.23	Forest School
23.3.23	School uniform
30.3.23	Forest School (Last Session)

Pupil feedback has shown that our children really participating in Forest School at Branfil, so we are very pleased to be able to continue to provide this opportunity to further year groups.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Gafford (Forest School Teacher)  
Mrs White (Year Three Year Leader)