

## St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Hazelgrove Road

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West Sussex

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Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Walker BEd (Hons) MA



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5<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents,

We are delighted that the children in year 5 will be taking part in Forest School this term. Forest School provides an opportunity to develop confidence and self-esteem whilst also developing cooperation and team work skills through hands-on-learning experience in a woodland environment. It complements and incorporates aspects of the National Curriculum and gives children an opportunity to develop their understanding of their environment.

There may be occasions when these sessions are cancelled or altered; we will try to inform you as soon as possible if that is the case.

The children will be split into two groups. Group A will go out in the morning and Group B will go out in the afternoon. Group A will need to come into school in forest school clothes and bring their uniform into school to change back into after their session. Group B will need come into school in their uniform and change into forest school clothes before lunchtime, they will go home wearing their forest school clothes.

Over the four week period your child will learn and engage in:

- Fire and tool safety
- Environmental awareness
- Woodland management
- Arts and crafts of a seasonal nature
- Games in connection with nature and wildlife
- Holistic and educational activities

Children will be encouraged to develop a 'can do' attitude through risk taking in a safe environment. They will also grow in confidence and develop new found skills. All activities are thoroughly risk assessed and the ratio of adult to child support is closely monitored. Each session is led by qualified Forest School leaders.

We go out in all but the very worst weather, so it is important that your child is suitably dressed. Children should bring their clothes into school in a named bag (please be aware that clothes being worn at Forest School can get very dirty and wet).



To ensure your child gets the most out of their session, they must have the appropriate clothing.

They must have:

- **Wellies or sturdy outdoor boots (NOT TRAINERS)**
- A warm waterproof coat
- Waterproof trousers
- **Long sleeve top and trousers – must have**
- In cold weathers - with an extra pair of warm socks, a hat, gloves and an extra jumper. (NO SCARVES)
- Lots of layers are a must!
- A labelled plastic bag for wet clothes

Please note that all children must wear **LONG** trousers, **LONG** sleeve tops and boots. For health and safety reasons, children not wearing suitable clothing will not be able to participate in Forest School sessions. If you have any trouble acquiring any of these items, please let the office or me know.

**Forest School dates:**

- **Aut 1 - St Margaret Class / Y5 / Miss Ellie Morris**  
11, 18, 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2, 9<sup>th</sup> October
- **Aut 2 - St Patrick Class /Y5 / Mrs Lucy Threshie**
- 16<sup>th</sup> October, 6,13, 20<sup>th</sup> November, 4<sup>th</sup> December

<b>St Margaret (Group A- AM)</b> 11, 18, 25 <sup>th</sup> September, 2, 9 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>St Margaret (Group B – PM)</b> 11, 18, 25 <sup>th</sup> September, 2, 9 <sup>th</sup> October
Naziel	Jason
Miguel	Stanley
Aji	Grace
Arabella	Erin
Alvie	Kendrick
Annabel	Alex O
Luana	Erienne
Amelia	Arthur
Walter	Oscar S
Sophie	Jenna
Joey	Elijah
Juwan	Evie
Rosalee	Daniel
Alexander	Matty
Angela	Oscar D



<b>St Patrick (Group A – AM)</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> October, 6,13, 20 <sup>th</sup> November, 4 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>St Patrick (Group B – PM)</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> October, 6,13, 20 <sup>th</sup> November, 4 <sup>th</sup> December
Giuseppe	Lola
Hannah	Erika
Hanush	Layla
Dexter	Gayatri
Zachary	Imogen
Harley	James P
Catherine	Ria
Rhys	Halle
Jake	Edward
Elliot	Thomas
James H	Adam
Taelyn-Lily	India
Jerom	Andrea
Ewelina	Maxine
Prayan	Charlie

Kind regards,



Mrs C Walker and the Year 5 team  
Head Teacher

