

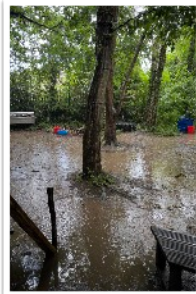


# NEWSLETTER



## WET WET WET

We've been very fortunate with the weather this summer term, except for a sudden downpour we had recently at St. Paul's, where we literally had a lake appear in minutes. The children had a lovely time jumping up and down in muddy puddles and it was incredible to see so much water running off tarps and down trees.



## HAPA ZOME

Coinciding with VE day this year which marks the end of WW2 in Europe, we made some hapa zome bunting. Taking fresh leaves we hammer them under some cotton sheets and watch the amazing leaf patterns form as the juices from the leaves stain the material. We then cut the sheets to a triangular shape to make the bunting and hung with pegs.



## LOOSE PARTS PLAY

At Forest School we like having loose parts play as part of our sessions. Loose parts play involves objects or natural materials (see images) used by children wherever they're playing. Loose Parts Theory was established by Simon Nicholson in the 70's to promote experimentation, invention, creativity and social interaction among children.

Recently, we've added a bucket of branch offcuts and noggins to encourage more of this in our sessions.

The materials are open-ended. This means that there isn't a structured outcome in mind. Allowing space for children to problem solve, express creativity, critically consider their design and aesthetic choices and run wild with imagination frees them from a narrow 'now build this' mentality.

The materials are hardy and recyclable being able to stand up to any stress thrown at them. When no longer serviceable for play, they can be used as firewood.

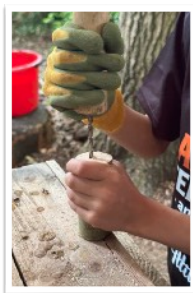
We look forward to seeing more amazing creativity from the children as they explore loose parts play.





## STICKMEN

This last half term we have been working on a project making stickmen. We have been learning to use a palm drill to make holes to insert arms, legs and a head. Palm drills provide an opportunity to use tools at a safe pace, build resilience and see how things fit together. While it was testing work, everyone was very pleased with their finished pieces. Sometimes we can't see the big picture, we just have to chip away at the smaller parts. However, when all the small parts come together, it can be exciting and transformative to see how far we've come and the progress we've made. Keep on keeping on!

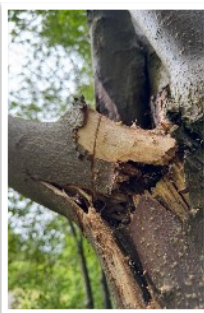


'Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.'

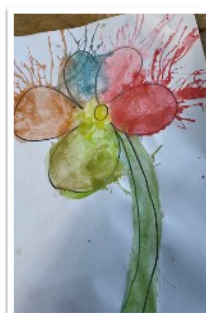
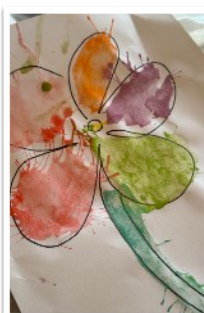
*Thomas Edison*

## FOREST SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Here's a selection of images from this last term of Forest School and Club...



We had to take down and chop up a broken tree limb at St. Paul's



Watercolour straw art with trees and flowers.



← Gorgeous bluebells in our woodland.

Mormo maura moth visiting Forest Club →



Campfire popcorn has become a firm favourite to do each term and we had lots of fun preparing, shaking and eating sweet and salty popcorn cooked over the fire. It's always exciting to see the first kernels pop before the explosion of fresh popcorn.



Lots of fun with ice play during the hot weather. Learners unearthed coins and gems, experimented with water and learnt about how ice makes the water cold.

