

Willow Class Forest School

Thursday 29th September 2022

Willow Class were fantastic observers of the signs of autumn; spotting acorns and how they turn pink and red inside and also found some oak galls on the leaves.



The class played a great game of 'beetle tag' in the meadow, taking it in turns to be birds tagging beetles. They were very good at pretending to be beetles on their backs when they were tagged!



Once in the woods the class talked about all of the natural resources they had collected, including sycamore helicopters, hawthorn 'haws', acorns, acorn cups, oak galls, different coloured leaves and sticks. It was great to hear how the children were independently comparing their finds in terms of number, shape size, measurement and textures.

Some had a go at creating pictures on the woodland floor with their finds. Some children used their resources to make some clay sculptures inspired by their literacy work 'The Lost Thing'. And some children had a go at using palm drills to drill through their acorns.

The children explored their own interests in the woods, exploring the site, swinging on the hammock or the rope swings and going to see if there was any water in the stream. They had fun showing different ways they could travel over the stream and explored how wood changes when it rots on the woodland floor. The class found a huge range of fungi and were very interested in trying to identify those that they had spotted, using books and id charts.

The slack line was fun and Willow Class took turns with each other well. There was also some great tree climbing!



The Impact of Forest School for the children is the knowledge the children have gained from the Forest School experience. The impact can be seen through the skills, tools used, art and craft activities, observations and knowledge of the fruit, plants trees in relation to the seasons and the skills involved in learning how to play Forest School games.



At the end of the session, each member of Willow Class Forest School had to think of one word to share about their experience today.

"...talking, digging, bridge, acorns, drill, fungi, everything..."