

Lilac Class Forest School

Thursday 6th October 2022

Lilac Class were fantastic observers of the signs of autumn; and spent a long time collecting acorns and comparing their sizes and textures.

The class played a great game of 'fox and rabbit'. They took it in turns to be the fox and rabbit, chasing until caught or being safe by linking up with others to be the 'safe rabbit warren'. The class showed great speed, agility and good awareness of turn taking.

Once in the woods the class had a go at developing their use of tools. All of the class used at least one tool and process if not more.

There were palm drills to drill into the acorns and acorn cups they had collected. These were then made into kebabs on feathers or necklaces.

The children learned to safely axe in pairs, using a knife and a mallet. They had to use good communication skills to work together to check they were splitting the wood safely. Some of the children then used their spit wood to make a museum for all of their acorns!

The bow saw was used, to work together to pull the saw to cut up some long lengths of wood for the wood store for fires during the colder months. The children showed how they had developed skills with their use of tools over their years of Forest School sessions.

The children also 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 worked on how to put up and take down the hammock safely together.

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 Lilac Class had to think of one word to share about their Forest School experience today.

"...walking, knife, saw, Poppy, bridge, acorns, museum, drill, hammock..."

