

Willow Class Forest School

Thursday 16th March 2023



It was another dull March day as we set off to the woods. Soon after the sun came out and we had a beautiful afternoon! Willows class had some spring id sheets to help them learn the names of spring plants and flowers. They found primroses, celandines, crocuses, oak trees, hazel catkins and cuckoo pint plants along our journey.

The class played a game of 'owl eyes' where they had to hide in the reeds and grasses in the meadow...can you spot any of them above?

This week Willow started their session in the woods by singing beautifully and using sticks to provide a rhythmic accompaniment. They learned a song about spring;

'Snowdrops, snowdrops, little drops of snow,

How do you feel when the cold wind blows?

We ring a little bell, ring a ding a ding,

Ring a ding a ding, here comes spring'

Linking to their learning journey of rainforests, this week the class looked at the canopy, understory and woodland floor to have a go at learning to identify plants of British woodlands. They talked about how this was similar and different to that of the rainforests in different regions of the world, such as the amazing Amazon.

We talked about the bluebells and how we need to take care to use the paths, to preserve these beautiful plants on the forest floor.

Then the class decorated eggs as a celebration of Easter. They used pens to create different patterns and images. Some of the children took them home, some made woodland houses for them, some then peeled their eggs and tasted them and some used the ipad to create slow motion videos of them smashing in the woods!



In the woods the children explored their own interests in the woods, exploring the site, the rope swings, digging in the stream and seeing how the flow of water could be diverted and how and where it disappeared into the woodland floor. There was great interest in exploring what they could find in the stream, mud, clay, leaves, stones and tree roots were uncovered today.



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.