



24th April 2025

Dear Parents,

Summer Project (and three new arrivals!)

We're excited to share with you some exciting plans we have for developing our outdoor learning provision at Forest.

Our Nursery and Kindergarten children already enjoy their outdoor sessions immensely, and we've seen first-hand how valuable this type of learning is for their creativity, confidence, and wellbeing. With that in mind, we are now expanding our provision to allow even more children across the school to benefit from outdoor learning opportunities.

From September 2025, we're delighted to announce that our Reception class will also have a weekly, timetabled Forest School-style outdoor learning session, giving them regular opportunities to explore and learn in nature. To further support this, Miss Saez will be completing her Level 5 qualification specialising in Outdoor Learning, ensuring our provision is not only engaging but also expertly led alongside Miss Bardsley and Mrs Singer.

In a special nod to the school's centenary, we will be transforming the top of the field—the site of the original old orchard—into a dedicated outdoor learning area. This space will be carefully designed as a safe, fenced-off environment featuring a large outdoor classroom shelter where children can explore, learn, and create in the fresh air.

As part of this transformation, we'll also be relocating our school chickens to the new space — and we're thrilled to announce the upcoming arrival of our very own three school pygmy goats in September. These additions will help our Foresters to connect with nature and learn about responsibility, care, and animal welfare in a hands-on and engaging way.

For the older Foresters, outdoor learning supports many areas of the curriculum, from art and science to storytelling and creative writing, and is also proven to support positive mental health. This works well for the Years 5 and 6 children who benefit from periods of time outside of a busy academic day. We are confident this development will add something very special to the Forest experience.

We'll keep you updated as the project progresses, and we look forward to seeing this new outdoor space come to life for our children.

Goats — yes, we really will be welcoming three school goats!

Yours sincerely,

G Booth

Graeme Booth
Headmaster