



Forest School Newsletter

Autumn Term - 2026

Welcome Back

Welcome to your seasonal Forest School Newsletter. It's that colourful time of year, with lots of changes happening to the outdoor environment for the pupils to engage in, learn about and explore. As Summer changes to Autumn, we will explore how the temperature changes and the impact this has on the flora and fauna in our site.

Our Forest School has a beautiful new look, as new planting of specialist forest and woodland plants and trees has taken place over the summer holidays.

The children will be cooking on the campfire, building dens and learning how to work together, making friends and reconnecting with old ones as they explore the outdoor environment.

As always in Forest School, we encourage the pupils to take acceptable levels of risk that are supervised by the Forest School lead and the support team of staff. The pupils are very much at the lead of their exploration and learning, and we are there to facilitate, answer their questions and guide their curiosities.

With this being the Season that has Halloween, Diwali and Black History Month, we will be participating in outdoor activities that reflect the customs and traditions of these festivals.

If you have any questions, or have experiences of the outdoors with your children you would like to share, please contact me;

isobel.jellyman@saxon.set.org

Thank you,
Isobel Jellyman, Forest School Lead Practitioner



This Season...

Autumn is the best and most beautiful time of year to be outdoors, although it can be colder than expected sometimes, and warmer than expected too. The pupils will learn about the season of Autumn and what to expect. They will be supported to explore and investigate using all of their senses what Autumn time means, how we celebrate it and what happens to the trees, animals and how we can help to look after the site during this time.

We will be using natural materials to create crafts to decorate our homes, the forest school and our yurt, including weaving with willow, making wreaths for Halloween and cooking seasonal treats on the campfire. We will be playing spooky hide and seek games in the woodland.



Sensory Learners

Making music in the forest school for Autumn using crunchy leaves and experiencing the organic smells from the woodland floor, and sensory woodland walks and travels through the woodland, looking at the changing canopy above during forest bathing and meditation. They will also experience sensory stories and Forest themed sensory with objects to touch, taste and smell based on the theme of Autumn.

Links to learning

Science—habitats, the Seasons, animals, conservation

Communication and Language—story telling, labelling, signs and symbols

Art—creating art using natural materials

Understanding the world—caring for the environment, changes in the seasons, festivals and celebrations

PSHE—making positive relationships

Suggested ideas at home

Go for an Autumn listening walk, stroll through the park or woodland area near you and stop for a minute, what can you hear?

Take photos of an Autumn scene.

Light a campfire outside.

Collect leaves and put them into ice in the freezer or make a shaker from the really crunchy and dry ones.

Please add photos to EFL of your adventures in Autumn!

Make an Autumn decoration for your door at home.

Weather



As the weather will be changeable, a blanket would be advisable. Wellies where appropriate, and if you are able to supply waterproof clothing this would be great, although I do have a limited supply here. If the temperature drops below 8 degrees, pupils will be having forest school sessions either in the yurt or in the forest school classroom, with activities based on what they would be doing outdoors.

Stories and Websites

Suggested websites for ideas:

[Top '50 things' activities to do in autumn | National Trust](#)

