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Head Teacher: Mr P Wilkes

29.12.2025

Dear 5CT Parents/ Carers,

I am very excited to let you know that your child will be starting our outdoor learning program from Wednesday 7th January 2026.

Each session will be 2 hours long and involve a mix of adult led and child-initiated activities. The session will take place in the morning and children can arrive in outdoor learning clothes, ensuring they have a full change of school clothes, including socks and shoes, in their bag. It is also important that they have a plastic bag to pop their muddy shoes into to take home.

Outdoor learning is a fantastic opportunity to use all your senses to explore and investigate the world around you. We want our children to have fun, take risks, make, build, use tools, dig, mix and climb.

Over the course of next few weeks, we will;

- Explore how to safely use a variety of tools and learn how to manage and minimize risk.
- Explore map reading and map creating, including grid reference and compass points
- Look at what topography is and how to both create this and represent it on maps
- Learn the fundamentals of fire building and cooking
- Look at how to survive in emergency situations
- Apply mathematics skills in measuring and fractions
- Get mucky, dig, splash, touch, and explore.

We do expect the next few weeks to be colder and wetter so please dress appropriately, we will experience all types of weather as we get "stuck in" to our natural world. We will quite literally be getting our hands (and clothes) dirty. Your child will need,

- A pair of trousers - waterproof if possible
- **2 Pairs of socks**- (these will make a HUGE difference in cold weather as they will trap warm air and keep feet warm)
- A warm jumper
- Wellies or closed toe shoes with grip (you must have an alternative pair of shoes to your school pair)
- A **waterproof** coat and a hat on colder days- more than 10% of body heat is lost through your head.

Please be aware that we will also be using mud, paints, natural, clay and other materials and if you are particularly concerned about damaging or staining clothing, please either supply an old/alternative coat or please speak to me or your child's class teacher directly if sourcing any of these items may be difficult, as we do have a limited supply of resources available if needed.

Children may come ready dressed in their outdoor learning clothes. You **must** also bring clean dry uniform plus school shoes and dry socks to put on afterwards.

I am very much looking forward to continuing our outdoor learning journey together.

Kind Regards

Miss Rebecca Howe