THE PEGASUS ACADEMY TRUST













Executive Principals: Mr M J Roberts & Ms L D Sampson Head of School: Mr P Robins

ECCLESBOURNE WHITEHORSE MANOR BEULAH INFANT & CYPRESS PRIMARY SCHOOL JUNIOR SCHOOL NURSERY SCHOOL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parent / Carers,

We are delighted to let you know that as part of our curriculum, your child will be taking part in Forest School sessions on a Thursday afternoon 2-3pm on the following dates,

Forest School has been an integral part of education in Scandinavia since the 1950's. Their philosophy of the Forest School was based upon a desire to provide young children with an education which encouraged appreciation of the wide, natural world and which would encourage responsibility for nature conservation in later life.

At Forest School, children are encouraged to make choices and follow their own learning in a range of activities which include: Den building, natural art and sculptures, mini beat hunting, leaf collecting, tree identification, and using simple equipment such as magnifying glasses, digging tools, bug boxes, string and rope along with making a campfire and toasting marshmallows!

The parents and teachers of children that participate in Forest School report improvement in independence, health, communication, self-esteem, confidence and a child's social outlook.

The sessions will take place in our dedicated Forest School site in the school grounds and will be led by a level 3 qualified Forest School Leader; Kathryn Spencer. Mrs. Spencer has been working in schools for the last 20 years, facilitating gardening clubs, outdoor learning activities and delivering Forest School sessions for the last 15 years. As Forest School is part of our curriculum, all children will attend these sessions, if you have any questions please ask your class teacher.

On a Forest School day please send your child into school wearing their PE kit with Forest School clothes in a named bag. If your child arrives not having any Forest School clothes, or is inappropriately dressed, they will be asked to use our lost property supply to dress them appropriately.

Your child should wear their usual shoe shoes and bring a pair of wellington boots in a carrier bag to change into just before their session. Arms and legs should be covered whatever the time of year, this helps protect against insect bites, scratches and bumps and sunburn.

On a cold day:

Plenty of layers of clothes please! A waterproof coat Waterproof trousers if they have them At least 2 pairs of socks. A woolly hat, scarf and gloves. Jogging bottoms with tights/leggings or football skins on underneath. A vest/t-shirt/jumpers and / or hoodie.

On a hot day:

Please apply sunscreen to your child before they leave home.

Ensure they have a water bottle and sunhat in school.

A long sleeve t-shirt and long trousers should always be worn however hot the weather is.

Forest School will take part whatever the weather, our philosophy is there is no such thing as bad weather, as long as your child is appropriately dressed there is no reason not to be outside. The only time we do not go to Forest School is in exceptionally high winds or thunder and lightning storms, if it is raining or snowing, we will be going to Forest School.

Your child will be cooking on the campfire at some sessions, we will use the school records to accommodate any food allergies or food preferences, so please ensure these are up to date.

Yours sincerely,

Year 1 Team