

Fishergate Newsletter 29

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26th January 2017



I am very pleased to be able to welcome a new face to our Fishergate family. Sarah Burland has joined our Early Years team as a part time teaching assistant. She is a highly experienced, very well qualified and creative individual and we are very lucky to have been able to snap her up.

As I type the school is that little bit quieter as some of our Y5 and Y6 children have gone to Robinwood. I know that they will have a brilliant time and wish that I could have gone with them! I would like to say a huge thank you to our staff who have given up their time to accompany the children, particularly Liz Pitz who coordinates and organises the whole thing. Also to Ann Cole who makes sure that all of the risk assessments are completed properly and uses far more of her own time than she should!

I also need to say a huge thank you to our small army of parents who gave up their time to improve our Forest Schools area at the end of last week. Also one amazing Dad has managed to secure £3000 worth of funding to enable us to make even more improvements – you know who you are but I wasn't sure if you would want to be named! Some of you may never be lucky enough to experience the joy that our children feel when they are learning in the Forest. The impact that it has, particularly on children who sometimes find more traditional forms of learning more challenging, really is incredible to witness. As a result of this, we are making sure that every phase in school has the opportunity to use this area to learn in. Every class will have a block of time working with Isabel Jagoe (a forest school's expert) who is working alongside our teachers to train them up. We have started with Mrs. Engleman and Mr. Snowden's classes, who have linked their forest work to their Science curriculum for this half term. If you want to see what all the fuss is about then get yourself onto our field on a Friday afternoon – you will be amazed!

Tina Clarke

TIME OUT FOR PARENTS: CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS COURSE

This 6-session course is written especially for parents who have children with additional needs. It looks at some of the specific issues around this and how parents can deal with them.

Topics include:

- How to help your child to be happy and secure
- Coping with your own feelings
- Observing and managing difficult behaviour
- Wider family issues
- Communication with school

The 2 hour sessions are fun and interactive and will be run by trained facilitators, Mel Haygarth and Emily Gould, who have much experience in this area.

Thursday Nights 7:30pm to 9:30pm
2nd, 9th, 16th Feb, 2nd, 9th, 16th March
At The Storehouse, Mansfield Street

To book a place or for any further information please contact Liz Hunt on 01904 624190 or email liz.hunt@belfrey.org



NO PARKING

PLEASE COULD PARENTS AVOID PARKING ON THE DOUBLE YELLOW LINES ON MELBOURNE STREET. IT MAKES IT HARDER FOR CHILDREN TO CROSS THE STREET SAFELY. THANK YOU



Amazing forest schools

Over the past few weeks our forest school has undergone some changes. The hills have been added to and turfed and we have a new shed. We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents who have given up their free time....Robbie Fisher, Emilie Flower, Hester Cashdan, Kate Ravillious, Jon Phillip, Anna Reader Chloe Smee Kester Clegg, Chris Stewart Jamie Ravillious, former pupils Martha Fisher and Maddie Stewart to name but a few. Many apologies if anyone has been forgotten. Our year 3/4 children are enjoying their forest schools sessions too. Thank you to Mark Havercroft for providing bricks and pallets. As always we need resources to keep our forest running smoothly. If you can donate, we need the following: large and small pebbles, sticks, bark chippings, fresh pasta and soup plastic containers with lids. We are also very short of wellington boots size 12 upwards for our older children.

Thanks

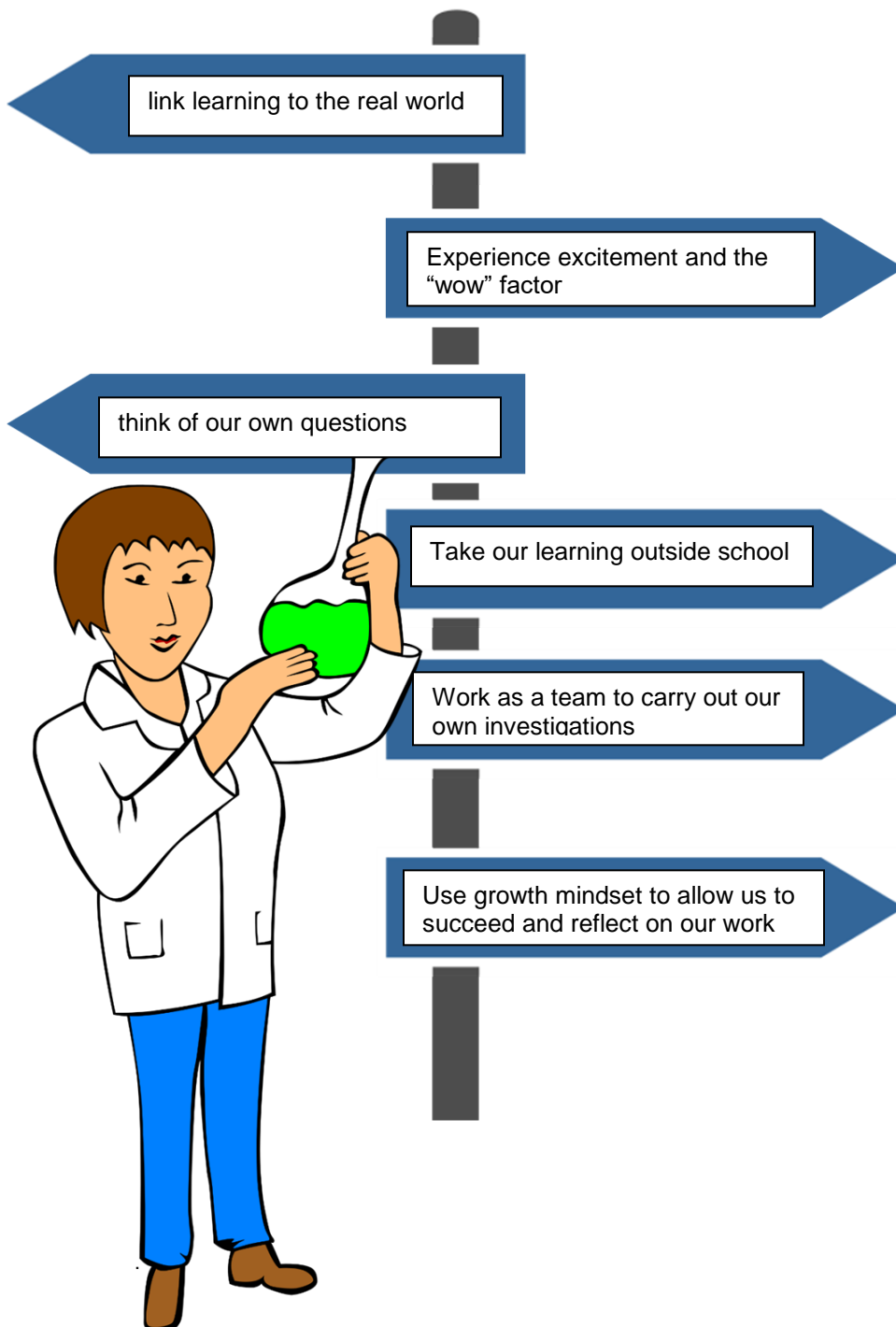
Caroline Burt Forest schools coordinator

The RSPB needs our help! The **Big Garden Birdwatch** is the world's largest wildlife survey and allows the RSPB to monitor trends and help them understand how birds are doing. Between the **28th and 30th January** they would like everyone to spare 1 hour to count the number of birds they see in their garden or local park. Once you have done this, you can submit your findings online.

If you would like further information, please see www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch. The School Council are taking part in the in the Big School's Birdwatch in February. We will be counting the number of birds we see in our local area and sending our results in. Many thanks School Council



Science at Fishergate allows us to.....



Our new science principles

At Fishergate, we really value the teaching and learning of science. Last term, all the staff and the pupils worked together to decide what made science good in our school. We have come up with six child friendly principles which we would like to share with you. Look out for these on our website in the science area. Later in the Spring term, we will also be displaying these principles in the lower hall.