

Forest School Parents Forum  
January 2015

- Miss Harrison outlined her training.
- A powerpoint presentation was shown of childhood pre 1980's.
- We discussed how experiences such as making mud pies and building dens are enduring and valuable learning.
- We discussed how extended outdoor play opportunities are not accessible or as encouraged for many children today due to health and safety concerns.
- Miss Harrison outlined how Larkhill Rise will provide a safe environment where children can access valuable outdoor learning experiences.
- Risk / benefit management was discussed with the procedures undertaken at school.
- Details of how Forest School sessions are to be rolled out in reception and how this is a unique outdoor experience as it is long term over several weeks / months with the same group to develop a sense of community which will promote trust, respect, responsibility, empathy, communication and self esteem in the children taking part.
- Miss Harrison talked about the possibility of Forest School sessions being run throughout school for a half term each year and how all classes will begin to use Larkhill Rise as an outdoor classroom to support learning across the curriculum.
- Miss Harrison thanked the Eco Warrior student leadership group and its parent helpers for their commitment. Also to parents for their support with community projects such as the Big Dig which has made the space useable and the possibility of Family Gardening Sessions in the summer term.

Copies of the Forest School Handbook and Policy were available. For more information about the Forest School click on the Larkhill Rise Forest School link under the heading 'Our Community'.