



Phoenix St. Peter Academy

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Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Development of Forest School and Seeds to Supper programmes

I am delighted to write to you with very exciting news for the school. In collaboration with Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Carlton Marshes Nature Reserve, we will be introducing outdoor learning to our curriculum in 2023/2024, within our wonderful nature area. The positive benefits of Forest School learning outdoors for children are many and include:

- appreciation, respect for and understanding of the environment around us
- learning about our local habitats
- supporting mental and physical wellbeing
- developing confidence and self-esteem
- development of independence, resilience and adaptability
- identifying and managing hazards and risk
- develop collaborative-working and communication skills
- developing a lifelong love of the outdoors
- skills and knowledge they would not learn in a classroom setting

Mr. Russell will be completing the Forest Schools Level 3 training in April, and is very excited to be leading and developing a Forest School at Phoenix St. Peter Academy.

Seeds to Supper

With support from The Country Trust and East Suffolk Council, we will also be improving children's knowledge of growing their own food through the '**Seeds to Supper**' programme. East Suffolk Council are kindly donating a number of starter kits as well as some planters. Linda Wilson, our midday supervisor has been busy preparing our allotment garden and will be starting an **Allotment Club** after February half term.

If you have any tools or gardening related equipment that are suitable for children that you can donate, we would be delighted to give them a home and purpose. Please pass anything to the school office, so that we can keep them safe and secure; and if you would like to support these activities further by Volunteering, please speak with Mrs. Ward.

We would appreciate your feedback on our plans to develop Phoenix St. Peter Academy as a Forest School, so please complete our short survey at the link below.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=EGorfMwEtEi30d9QFOXXNCTXqVYanxBEt3qb1wnY_gFUMkw4NVhFQ1NIUUpZTEIHUEIFRVhETDhPQy4u

We are all incredibly excited about these plans and the opportunities they will bring the children.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Matthew Jordan
Executive Headteacher