

7<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

### **Re: Outdoor Learning – Year 5**

We hope your children have had an exciting and memorable return to school and you have heard all about all the excellent learning we have already done so far. An exciting new venture this year is our growing relationship with The Forest School, leading to increased outdoor learning for our children. As such, there are a few bits of information and advice we would like to share with you to make this a successful addition to our school curriculum.

#### **Why outdoor learning?**

In a time where technology and devices are becoming more and more engrained into our daily lives, we want to give our children rich, educational experiences in the outdoors. Research has proven that being outdoors more can help improve our moods, our mental health and our wellbeing.

#### **What will we be doing?**

Put quite simply, we will be using the outdoors as our classroom. The purpose of our learning may change week to week. As an example, we may go to Daubeney Fields one week to help enrich our history learning and the following week we may go to Hackney Marshes to enrich our maths learning. We will be working closely with the professionals from The Forest School to help make the most of the resources outdoors and to make sure our children are happy and safe.

#### **What can you help with?**

The school will communicate with you when outdoor learning is taking place. On those days, please make sure your child brings to school suitable clothing for outdoor learning. This can include trainers/boots, tracksuit bottoms/shorts, t-shirts. On wet days, a raincoat, a hat or waterproof clothing may also be beneficial and on hot, sunny days it is advised you apply sun cream to the exposed areas of your children's skin. There is a saying that goes with outdoor learning, "There is no bad weather, only bad clothing." We aim to go outdoors once a week, for the remainder of the year, come rain or shine. Therefore please work with us to help ensure your children has the most enriching, exciting education that we can offer.

#### **When will it start?**

In year 5 we will be taking part in our first outdoor learning lesson tomorrow (Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September) for 5MC and 5SM. Then, on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September for 5C. If you have any questions, please ask the class teachers at the end of the day in the playground or email our admin team and someone will aim to get back to you within 24 hours.

We are very excited for this new addition to our curriculum. Not only will these outdoor opportunities enrich our children's learning, they will also create a stronger bond between our school and the local community. We hope you are just as excited as we are.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Logan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr Gregory Logan  
Head of School  
Daubeney Primary

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'R Warren'.

Robin Warren  
Executive Head Teacher