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### Newsletter 1 – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Welcome back to Ewelme for the start of a new school year. It has been a really positive first day of term today and it has been especially nice to welcome our new starters, both in reception class with Mrs Smith and in other year groups as well.

Please find below what I hope is useful information about the term ahead.

#### PE timetable:

Please remember to send your child/children into school wearing their PE kits on the days listed below.

Chaucer class (Reception and Year 1): Mondays and Thursdays

Roet class (Year 2): Mondays and Wednesdays

Burghersh class (Year 3 and 4): Mondays and Wednesdays

De La Pole class (Year 5 and 6): Mondays and swimming on Thursdays

PE lessons will start this week so, if your child has PE tomorrow or Thursday, please send them in wearing their kit.

#### New topics for Autumn term:

You can find out more about our curriculum and what the children will be learning by visiting: [www.ewelmeprimaryschool.com/curriculum](http://www.ewelmeprimaryschool.com/curriculum)

*Chaucer class (Reception and Year 1):* **All About Me** - the children will be learning about themselves and their place in the world. In science they will learn about parts of the body while in geography they will learn about where they live.

*Roet class (Year 2):* **Castles** - the children will be learning about what life was like living in a castle; how they were built to protect their residents and the people who lived nearby; and why they were built where they were.

*Burghersh class (Year 3 and 4):* **Our local area** - the children will learn more about their local area, including the history of Ewelme and our school. They will also develop their map skills and locational knowledge in geography.

*De La Pole class (Year 5 and 6):* **Amazing Americas** - in geography, the children will learn more about the landscape, climate and human geography of the Western USA and compare this with the UK. They will also read 'Holes' by Louis Sachar, which is based in Texas, and use this to inspire their creative writing.

#### Forest School:

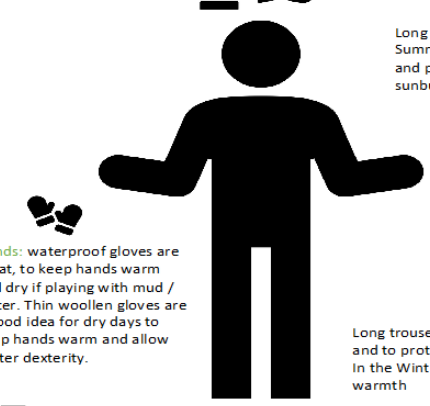
We are very excited to get up and running with our new Forest School this term. The first class to participate will be Burghersh (Years 3 and 4), **starting next Tuesday (12<sup>th</sup> September)**.

On the days your child is participating in Forest School please send them into school wearing their normal school polo shirt and a pair of long trousers suitable for Forest School. A pair of track-suit bottoms or joggers would be appropriate. For those children taking part in Forest School during the wetter and colder months, it may also be wise to provide a pair of loose-fitting water proof trousers that could be worn over the top of their joggers/tracksuit bottoms.

Please also provide a long-sleeved top, of suitable fabric/thickness for the time of year and expected weather, and suitable shoes in a labelled bag which can be left on your child's peg until it is time for Forest School.

See below for more information and guidance about the best items of clothing for Forest School.

### What should I wear to Forest School?!



**Head:** depending on the season; a warm hat for Winter and a sun hat for the Summer.

**Head:** In the Summer, remember sunscreen too!

**Layers!!!** it's not about the amount of layers the child has on to keep warm and dry but the type of fabrics the layers are. Cotton layers will soak up sweat and will leave the child cold. Even on cold wet days a child can get hot and sweaty under their waterproofs. Merino wool and/or polyester blend materials are durable and great for warm base layers with excellent wicking performance.

**Long sleeved top** – best to wear in Summer and Winter, to keep warm, and protect from scratches, bites, sunburn and ticks.

**Waterproof top and trousers** or all in one suit is an essential part of FS kit to keep children dry and warm to allow them to stay out for the session duration and concentrate on their activities. In warmer months, this layer may not be practical.

**Hands:** waterproof gloves are great, to keep hands warm and dry if playing with mud / water. Thin woolen gloves are a good idea for dry days to keep hands warm and allow better dexterity.

**Long trousers** for Summer and Winter, to keep warm and to protect from scratches, bites, sunburn and ticks. In the Winter, a base layer leggings underneath will add warmth.

**Feet:** a good pair of waterproof walking boots are better than wellington boots; they are warmer, better ventilated and they fit better, for climbing, manoeuvring and running. If wellington boots are the only option, multiple pairs of socks should be worn in the winter to keep little feet warm! In the warmer months, it is still important for children to wear full shoes for protection.

**Note:** all Forest School clothes should be clothes that parents and guardians do not mind getting dirty.

### Dates for the diary:

Further dates will be added as events are arranged and/or confirmed. *Click here to see the school's online calendar:* <https://ewelmeprimaryschool.com/calendar/>

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September – First Forest School session for Y3/4

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September – First swimming session for Y5/6

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September – Cross Country at Grey's Court, 9am start

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October – Winter Series Cross Country race 1, Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge School , 10am start

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October – Last Forest School session for Y3/4

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October – End of term 1 for children, 3.15pm

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October – INSET day

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October-Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Half term

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Start of term 2, 8.45am

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October - Individual photos

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November – Winter series Cross Country race 2 at MECE, 10am start

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November – First Forest School session for Y2

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Flu immunisations

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December - Winter series Cross Country race 3 at MECE, 10am start

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December – last swimming session for Y5/6

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Final Forest School session for Y2

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Pantomime at Oxford Playhouse

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of term 2 for all, 12.15pm

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Christmas holiday

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January – INSET day

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Start of term 3 for children, 8.45am

**Please visit the school website to view term dates for 2023/24: <https://ewelmeprimaryschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Ewelme-Primary-School-term-dates-2023-24.pdf>**