



# Forest Way School Newsletter

March 2022

## A Word From Gail



It has been a busy Spring Term and it is lovely to show you some of the activities that our students have been involved in.

We have resumed our sports trips and wider community work which everyone has loved doing. We have kept in place many of our COVID risk mitigations and we are grateful for your continued support with this.

Many of our Annual Review meetings are now face to face, the feedback about the video student contributions has been very positive and we will be continuing to develop this.

We are busy preparing for the Summer Term and we are hoping to plan some social events to celebrate our Ofsted result, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and our 50 Year Anniversary—so watch this space!

Our Friends of Forest Way Social Group met on Thursday 10th March. It was fantastic to see so many of you. We have lots of ideas for future events and networking support for parents. Watch this space for a Friends of Forest Way newsletter.

Remember you can contact us at school during office hours or email [parentsupport@forestway.leics.sch.uk](mailto:parentsupport@forestway.leics.sch.uk) at other times.

Thank you for your continued support.

*Gail* Best wishes

## Indoor Athletics Final

At the Indoor Athletics County Finals in Aylestone, our children did very well. KS3 won bronze medals and KS4/5 won gold. 5 students won individual awards and 1 student was talent spotted for a professional wheelchair track team!

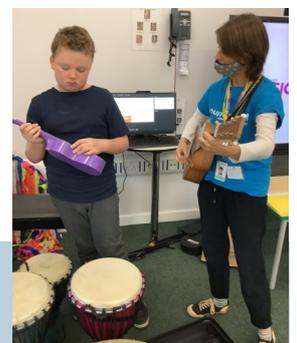


## Soundabout



Some children across school got the chance to join a workshop for singing with the Soundabout choir. This is a special needs choir that rehearses every other Saturday online and in person.

Visit [Leicestershire Inclusive Choir Sign-Up - Soundabout](#) to find out more or join in a session.



# soundabout

# Acorns 1 New Experiences

## Swimming

Some of the children in Acorns 1 have been swimming for the very first time this term.

It was initially quite awe inspiring as they entered the pool area but once in the water all of the children enjoyed splashing, playing games and sitting in the hydrotherapy pool area.

Rusen and Aedan enjoyed walking up and down the pool holding the rail and then sitting in the hydrotherapy pool.



*Logan grating carrots for his jacket potato.*



*Rusen and Dylan exploring the tent.*

## Camping

Acorns 1 had a great time experiencing camping. They chose a rucksack then filled it with a teddy, chocolate bar for energy, their drinks beaker, an instrument to play sitting round the camp fire and a torch. They chose different fillings to put in a jacket potato like grated cheese, ham and beans.

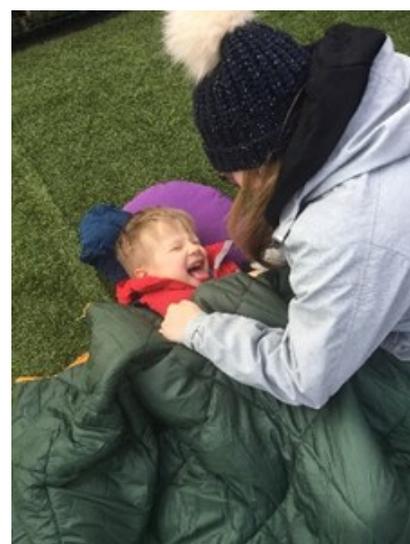
The children explored different tents and camping equipment too.



*Aedan eating his mousse in a tent with Sylvia.*



*Warren being a 'real camper.'*



*George having fun with Emily in a sleeping bag!*

The children had a great day that had been inspired by Warren's interest in the YouTube clip 'Out Door Boys'

## Communication

The iPads for communication provided by the Randal-Foundation and the Menphys Charity have been successful so far. The first evaluations and feedback have been very positive by school staff and parents and the Menphys Charity are extremely pleased with the progress so far.



## Can You Help Us?



We have started doing Lego therapy with our young people and we desperately need more Lego.

If you have any Lego that you can donate please send it in with your child or hand it into reception.

Thank you!

## Acorns 3 Exploring Traditional Tales



Acorns 3 have been exploring the topic Traditional Tales this term. The pupils have enjoyed listening to different stories and having lots of fun using puppets to retell the stories. In Computing we have experienced how to create marks onto an interactive screen, and we have practiced logging onto a computer safely. In PE we have been learning about different dancing styles and we especially enjoyed dancing to the rock and roll music with a friend! All the pupils have been making lots of lovely small steps of progress this term with their communication skills, phonics and becoming more independent with their dressing skills. Well done Acorns 3! Jo

## Acorns 6 Enjoying Chinese New Year



This half term in Acorns 6, we took part in Chinese New Year Workshops. We made our own cupcake case dragon pictures, and our own paper plate fans using paint and black paint to create our tree shapes. In the afternoon, we enjoyed tasting some Chinese foods such as bamboo shoots, sweet and sour sauce, egg fried rice, prawn crackers and spring rolls.

## Oaks 4 Castles

Last term in History, we were looking at Castles and the reign of William the Conqueror. We learnt the names of different parts of a castle, including the battlements and arrow loops. We then studied Windsor and Edinburgh Castles. In December, we visited Warwick Castle, which was built during the reign of William the Conqueror. Oaks 4 were amazing. We learnt some new information and ce-





mented some of our previous learning. We enjoyed getting lost in the maze and learning about the birds of prey! What a fantastic school trip!!

## Ulverscroft Visit

I like Ulverts croft

it is very good,

but I really like Morrisons

I really like Morrisons looking at a menu and ordering and buying

We went there and back

We went to Bulls head before Christmas

I Like the gym

It's very good

It's the same as gym club in Coalville

I would rather bring my money

I like cook + eat.

Food own food

Allotment.

We Walked around ul vert's croft.

Grange.

Then I needed to have lots of drink. And I am going to have lots of drink.

Written by Theo

## Post 16 Work Experience

Two Post 16 students have made their first trip to Beaumont Leys Shopping Centre for work experience. Simon Revell the premises manager has been working with the school and has offered the opportunity for two students to be given training in the maintaining of the shopping area. The work experience will be a long-term partnership with the shopping centre lasting most of the year. The students will carry out their supported work experience one day each week. The students will be part of the site team. They have been measured up for their blue uniforms and PPE. We will posting more information once they are settled into their roles.

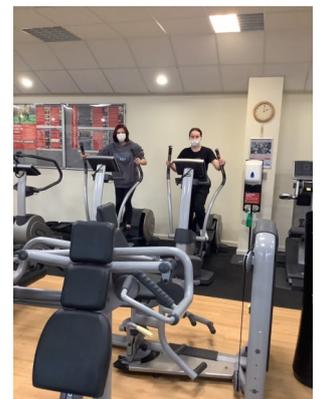


The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has been in school and offering Local Labour market talks. Students have been finding out about what jobs exist within Leicestershire and particularly who the main employers are in the surrounding area.

Students have also carried out budgeting workshops with the DWP and explored different scenarios and how to save money.

## Oaks 10 The Gym

Oaks 10 have now followed in the footsteps of Oaks 11 and are using the Hermitage Leisure Centre gym in Coalville, once a week, to improve their fitness. All pupils have done an online induction before using the gym equipment and work out at the same time as members of the community. Pupils are able to keep track of their progress with a logbook that they fill out weekly and they can concentrate on their own goals with an individualised approach to fitness. This use of the community leisure facilities means that our pupils are more likely to develop healthy habits for life.





## FOREST WAY CAREER CHAMPIONS



Become a Careers Champion for Forest Way and support our students with their career aspirations and life choices. The school is looking for long term, sustainable links with anyone in the world of work. You may be a business owner, an employee, a volunteer, a charitable organisation or in further education.

### **YOU CAN REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE LIVES OF OUR STUDENTS**

#### **Our students seek to:**

- Explore the world of work and the opportunities available to them.
- Learn more about STEM opportunities in the world of work.
- Undertake work experience placements and internships.
- Visit local businesses.
- Have links with further education and higher education providers.

#### **Can you ...?**

- Offer a short talk to our students about your business.
- Offer taster sessions about your field of work virtual or face to face.
- Support mock interviews and CV writing.
- Support our careers days.
- Offer practical work-related experiences in school.
- Provide practical guidance on STEM activities.
- Offer work experience placements or internships (the school will provide the correct risk assessments and support the students with a trained Forest Way staff member).
- Offer visits and talks about further and higher education.

#### **What's in it for you?**

- By supporting the school and becoming a careers champion you will be making a difference to our students' futures.
- Careers Champions will be added to our school's website and publicity materials and social media.
- Opportunities to network with like-minded people from the world of work.
- Showcase your involvement with the school and student success stories.
- We can offer free disability awareness and communication training courses which could benefit you and your staff or colleagues.

**To find out more, please contact Tim Lees: [tlee@forestway.leics.sch.uk](mailto:tlee@forestway.leics.sch.uk)**