



# Friends at the Forest



Reception Class have begun their weekly visits to the forest school at Holland Park Ecology Centre, and the children have enjoyed their experiences of learning through nature. Forest School encourages the development of the children's emotional and physical development through outdoor play, activities and exploration in a woodland classroom. Spending time in a wood on a regular basis is a wonderful chance for children to connect with nature. All the activities take into account learning styles and schemas. The programme helps to build self-esteem, communication skills, independence and self-confidence. Well done for joining in so enthusiastically Reception Class! We would also like to thank all of the parents that give their time to assist us.

## Hour of Code

One of our parents has recommended the following website to support technology:  
<https://uk.code.org/> .

There is a large variety of themes which support real coding techniques. As always, children should be supervised while using the internet.

## Next Academic Year

If your child will be leaving Oratory at the end of the academic year, please let the school know in writing as soon as possible, so that the place can be offered to a child on our waiting list.

## SATs weeks

During the week of May 14<sup>th</sup> our Year 6 pupils will be completing their SATs. We are all so proud of you already for your hard work, each one of you has given your personal best. We cannot stress how important it is for them to get plenty of sleep and a good breakfast; attendance and punctuality will be particularly vital. We will also remind the other classes to be extra quiet, to allow Year 6 to concentrate well.

Year 2 SATs week will follow during the week of 21<sup>st</sup> May. Although still statutory tests, which must follow particular procedures and regulations, these are far less formal, and will be completed in small groups. A supply teacher will support the class so that Mr Challens can undertake the assessments.

Although the class teachers have already provided information for you, the DfE have created the following videos for parents to explain more, which you may like to watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cuXJidYP7-0>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xBVHIF1SvNk>

## Appeal for house plants. Would you be able to help?

As well as looking good, houseplants are known to support human health in homes, offices, schools and hospitals. They improve air quality by trapping and capturing pollutants, helping us to breathe more easily. Likewise, they provide a wide range of mental and physical health benefits.

We would be very grateful if you would consider buying or donating a potted houseplant to the school. Please drop off your plants in the hall at any time, and we will find them a suitable home.

