HOATH PRIMARY SCHOOL
School Lane, Hoath, Canterbury, Kent, CT3 4LA
Telephone: 01227 860249
E-mail: office@hoath.kent.sch.uk

7th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers of Class 4

Next term, children in Class 4 are to take part in a programme of Forest School on the following dates:

- Tuesday 3rd November 2026
- Tuesday 10th November 2026
- Tuesday 17th November 2026
- Tuesday 24th November 2026
- Tuesday 1st December 2026

We will be using the site at Ross Woods, a less than ten minute drive away from the school, off New Road, Herne. The site is a scout camp site and has some amazing activity opportunities in addition to the woodland. There is parking available and we are able to use the toilet facilities. The site now has numerous hand washing facilities with hot water and hand sanitising stations and the children will wash their hands before getting onto the minibuses and when they disembark.

These days offer children the opportunities to achieve and develop through self-led, hands on learning experiences in a local woodland. The sessions are structured but flexible. Children are encouraged to learn at their own pace, including time for free play within set boundaries, which is recognised as a valuable learning process. Activities can be repeated in subsequent sessions, allowing participants to be involved at a time appropriate to their individual learning.

Temporary shelter is used in case of bad weather, and there is usually a fire which is supervised. All activities and the site are Risk Assessed and there will be safety talks to establish ground rules.

The children will be outdoors for each session, so we advise that they wear/bring the following and are prepared for all weather conditions.

Clothing to wear in the woods
Long trousers (to avoid scratches)
Long sleeves (to avoid scratches)
Sturdy footwear – boots or wellies are best
Coat, hat, scarf, gloves (cold weather)
Plenty of layers of clothing or thermals (cold weather)

Recommended things to bring
Waterproofs (we can provide these if necessary)
Packed lunch, drinks
Insect repellent (if required)

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We provide drinking water and activities may include making a hot chocolate drink and cooking (e.g. popcorn, marshmallows, chestnuts, potatoes, sausages) over the fire.

There will be a variety of practical activities and games and children may be using tools, such as loppers, bowsaws and peelers under close supervision from Forest School staff. Use of tools depends on the students' age and ability levels, which is assessed by Forest School staff.

Children will need to bring a packed lunch and drink and come suitably dressed for all weathers.

If you would like to order a school packed lunch, please email the school office.

The children will be travelling by minibus and normal school hours will apply.

Please login to your Arbor account to give consent by **Thursday 22nd October 2026.**

Thank you

Mrs Phillipson