

Newsletter

Wiltshire Forest School Network

December 2010

Spreading the Forest School word and encouraging people to get outside with whoever they are working with – parents, toddlers, pre-school, primary school, adults, youth groups.

News

Please share what you have been doing outside and we will keep you up to date with Forest School training, funding and outdoor opportunities in and around Wiltshire.

Wow! What a busy couple of months we've kicked this off with! We have run two Forest School taster sessions with Ruth Parsons from Woodland Learning and had 20 people attending each with waiting lists. Thanks to Neston Primary and Kiwi Primary for hosting those sessions. We have several more taster sessions booked (see details) some on Saturdays, one of which children are welcome to come to. The initial taster groups have asked to meet again and would like to focus on literacy and numeracy. These sessions will be offered to those groups first and should there be any places left, will be thrown open to everyone. If your school or setting would like to host a taster session, please contact myself or Ella. In return for providing outside space, a classroom with PowerPoint, loos and a kettle we will give you two **free** places.

Forest Schools and Outdoor Learning were highlighted at the Wiltshire Council Early Years Conference showcasing the North Wiltshire Outdoor Play Project. Thank you to everyone who provided photographs and comments for the display.

The Level Three training at Langford Lakes is now full but other training is available through Wiltshire and Bridgwater Colleges and Archimedes training, (see details).

We have approached the Forest Education Initiative and are looking at becoming one of their cluster groups, watch this space . . .

If you have had this newsletter forwarded on to you and would like to be added to our mailing list, please mail Karen.bird@wiltshire.gov.uk with your name, place of work and contact details with 'Add to FS mailing list' in the email title.

Have a great festive season, next newsletter in March or April . . .

Niki and Ella

Play Development Advisors, Wiltshire Council

Niki.willows@wiltshire.gov.uk

Ella.coghlan@wiltshire.gov.uk

Places to visit

Hillier Garden Centre at Romsey for their Education Garden

<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/hilliergardens/hilliergardens-gardentour/hilliergardens-educationgarden.htm>

Do you know about . . . ?

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

The School Advice and Support Service offers schools direct, in-school support with their environmental education work. Whether you are working within the Sustainable Schools Agenda, working towards an Eco Schools Award, or simply want to make a difference in your school and local community, we can provide support in pupil committee meetings with environmental auditing and action planning, carrying out those actions and maintaining momentum. We can also offer a range of fun and informative assemblies and workshops, covering a wide variety of topics. <http://www.wiltshirewildlife.org/Schools/PageTemplate.aspx>

Woodland Learning

Being in a woodland environment creates a feeling of peace and wonder for most people. Woodland Learning works in and helps to create woodlands to teach people of all ages and abilities about woodland wildlife, woodland management and woodland crafts. Through this people can learn about themselves and develop personally. They can

also enjoy fresh air and exercise, have great fun and make new friends!

<http://www.woodland-learning.co.uk/>

What's on . . . ?

Lackham College offer a range of outdoor activities for children, sign up for their newsletter by emailing Sheena at

Sheena.Awdry@wiltshire.ac.uk

Training

Forest School Taster Days run with Wiltshire Council Play Development Service and Woodland Learning.

05 March – Wylve Valley School, Codford

Saturday Morning session 10.00 am to 12.00pm
(Children may accompany adults at this session – no charge for children)

Saturday Afternoon session 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm
(Sorry, no children)

Picnic for all 12.00 noon to 1.00 pm (Bring your own picnic lunch)

16 March – St Martin's Primary, Salisbury

3.30pm – 5.30pm

All sessions – Cost £15 per person

Please contact Karen.bird@wiltshire.gov.uk to book your place.

FREE TRAINING - CPD Food and Farming Awareness Workshops for teachers and their assistants under Rural Education Action Programme (REAP). A one day workshop

delivered at Wiltshire College Lackham or at your school and a local farm. Please call Sheena on 01249 466857 to discuss your INSET days.

Forest School training at Lackham College

Bookings on www.skills3.co.uk or call 01225 330035

Forest School Level 3

February 28th - March 4th ~ £820

Note re-arranged date

Forest School Level 3 Top Up Course

July 12th-15th ~ £550

Forest School Level 1

May 4th- 8th ~ £275

At School in the Forest

A taste of outdoor learning, ideal for CPD

April 8th and June 6th ~ £35

(dates can be arranged to suit your group)

Archimedes Training - www.forestschools.com

Bridgwater College

<http://www.bridgwater.ac.uk/sec4.php?sec4ID=415&seclD=6>

A Day in the Woods with Advisory Teacher Pauline Lovering and Niki Willows at Lackham coming soon . . .

Question often asked

Where did Pauline get her Fire wok?

www.firewok.co.uk

Plan for . . .

A charity project that involves getting outside in your wellies? The Woodland Trust are asking people to raise money for trees - details here <http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/more-trees-more-good/give-it-some-welly/Documents/give-it-some-welly-ideas-book.pdf>

Funding Opportunities

Funding for Play attached to this email

Worth a google

www.lakelandbushcraft.co.uk

www.ltl.org.uk

And furthermore . . .

If you would like Niki or Ella to visit your setting to advise you on how best to use your outdoor space, please drop us an email. Also, please email us with any comments or suggestions for the next newsletter, thank you.

