

# Outdoor Learning Resource

## Newsletter *September 2020 update*

### Gardening Now!

Captain Susan Tidball of the Salvation Army received a 4<sup>th</sup> fresh veg. basket from us this week, this time for their Friday morning food bank. Thanks to Mrs Young and Mr Young for help with delivering. Castle students have started to plant turnips, protecting them from slugs and snails with recycled plastic bottles.

### Forest Now!

Some work has been done on trees to remove heavy overhanging branches. Other light overhangs, form part of our dry canopy, so you won't get wet when you visit! Ivy has been severed from the mature trees at the roots, leaving plenty in the upper canopies for wildlife. This reduction undoubtedly helped both of the Maples during the recent high winds. Two more dens have been added, so have fun finding them. Construction of both the 'blue house' and 'igloo' has been started and you will need to complete these during the next term.

### Yr. 7 Transition (A Sense of Place).

Thank goodness the weather was perfect on 10<sup>th</sup> Sept. and the first 90 students visited the OL resource in tutor groups. 7AAM, 7SCO and 7KHW behaved impeccably and got right into the 'wild' thing. They loved smelling and tasting the herbs, blackberries and apples, found and tried out the 4 dens and WW1 trench. Oh, and wrote their thoughts on a 'sense of place'. They were followed the next day by 7BJK, 7 ELG and 7RUU who came over with Ms P Williams. Once again, tasting, smelling, exploring, quenching their thirst, nibbles and a slice of our own apples proved very popular. What a scorcher Monday 14<sup>th</sup> was! High pressure again!! Good job there was plenty of tree and canopy shade for 7PRE, 7NWO, and 7CB. They all coped marvellously loving tasting Elder berries, Red Currants and Spearmint. Red Admiral butterflies had hatched and were enjoying the sunshine and windfall apples. Last to visit OL was 7LDD with Mr Full. The great weather held until they returned to main school. Social distancing and hand washing protocols were observed throughout.



IN laying chippings



IAG with 7CB



### Features and habitats

The recycled 'Blue House' is gradually taking shape and will now have a royal blue net covering, kindly donated by Devon Scaffolding. Thanks Darren. Also, the 'White House' aka igloo, is starting to be made. Plasto being now has a head and will soon be up a tree!!!