

# Outdoor Learning Resource

## Newsletter *November 2021 update*

**Gardening Now!** Most beds covered with their winter 'duvets' of mulch bags full of fallen leaves. Only celery and baby beets left growing. Spring bulbs being planted out by all groups, across the site.

**Forest Now!** - Students have made a great job cutting back bramble dome, sweeping leaves for Hedgehog habitats, composting and leaf mulch bags. Sweet Chestnuts have fallen early without fully ripening, so we toasted some Spanish ones on suitable cold, dry days. We have filled orange and red net bags with chestnut husks to make a large spider feature by the Zen garden. Now that watering is no longer required the tubs have been re-purposed as an outdoor drum kit, which Ruby and Finn particularly like playing.



**Long Garden Early Years-** Children continue to enjoy exploring our wooded area and visiting the various features. They helped to make a remembrance wreath to carry back to their own school.



### Castle ARB

Observed beautifully Remembrance Day, having made and laid wreaths at both memorial features- Poppy tree and Unknown soldier.



**ALG** - Year 10's have visited the OL resource during p5 IAG, each week, for a healthy dose of fresh air, freedom to explore somewhere different and busy themselves with a little conservation work, horticultural planting, outdoor careers related quiz +hot chocolate and nibble. Most have really appreciated this opportunity but it's interesting to note how 2 yrs. absence from visiting this facility, (due to Covid), created some over excitement and loss of self- control amongst a small minority. This was addressed quickly thro' visits to LGEY and L Primary, who currently share this resource, where the point was duly made.

**IN-** Have also been doing all of the above in their small groups, whilst at the same time continuing to cope with each other and themselves during this particularly stressful time. Climbing Joby's ladder helps. Yr.9 have been opening chestnuts sweeping leaves for hibernaculum's and the mosh bags, pruning brambles, apple pressing and tasting Halloween soup!!



**IAG** - Students from yrs. 8 and 10 currently are helping with bramble pruning, sowing spring flower bulbs, re touching poppy painting, staining planters and wood signs, erecting tepees, willow wreath making, graffiti art and generally following their year IAG themes of Rights and Responsibilities, Sexual Health.

### L Primary -



Pressing apple juice and dipping apples in chocolate-yum!

CAU