

St Joseph's Forest School – Thursday 9th October 2025

Weather: Dry | **Session:** All day

Our Forest School sessions this week were full of hands-on learning, teamwork, and exploration across all classes.

Beech & Cedar Classes – Hedgehogs & Autumn

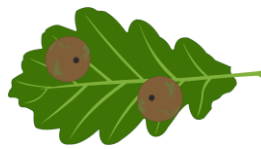
- Started the session at the **fire circle** discussing hedgehogs: diet, hibernation, and habitats.
 - Created **hedgehog homes** using leaves and natural materials to keep a toy hedgehog safe and warm.
 - Explored **autumn leaves** by collecting them in various colours – yellow, orange, red, brown, green, and purple!
 - Practised **flint and steel** for fine motor skills.
 - Created animals from **conkers**, painted with water, dug in the soil, and shared their creations at the fire circle.
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Elm Class – Teamwork & Tools

- Began with a **rope game**, developing communication, problem-solving, and teamwork skills.
 - Took part in a **tool session**: children practised using loppers, saws (Year 3), and knives (Year 4) safely.
 - Worked in **small groups**, mentoring each other and following health and safety rules.
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Oak Class – Robinson Crusoe & Shelter Building

- Linked **literacy** work on *Robinson Crusoe* to building **natural shelters**.
- Learned about strong shapes (triangles, Y-shaped sticks) and constructed **waterproof roofs** using sticks and leaves.
- Collaborated to solve problems when shelters fell and reflected on improvements.



- Many children experienced **building dens for the first time** and were keen to continue.
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Reflection

This week, children across all classes demonstrated:

- **Curiosity** – exploring nature and learning about animals and seasonal changes
- **Creativity** – making hedgehog homes, leaf collections, and conker creatures
- **Teamwork & problem-solving** – building shelters and completing group activities
- **Practical skills** – safely using tools and experimenting with outdoor materials

We're looking forward to seeing how their skills and confidence continue to grow in upcoming Forest School sessions!