

Forest School Session (19th March 2026)

Beech & Cedar

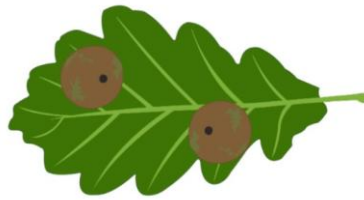
Beech and Cedar classes began their session around the fire circle, reflecting on their recent learning and identifying the many signs of spring they have been exploring. The children confidently recalled the frog life cycle and discussed the official start of spring.

The group revisited fire circle rules and were introduced to fire lighting using flint and steel. All children had the opportunity to practise this skill, showing determination and resilience while supporting one another and sharing techniques that worked well.

Throughout the session, the children explored a range of activities. Some chose to work with clay and woodland animal figures, while others used information books to deepen their understanding of wildlife. The hammocks were a popular activity, with children practising turn-taking and developing core strength as they climbed in and out.

Cedar class planted their previously grown bean plants into the vegetable plot, supporting them with poles to help them grow. The children also used magnifying glasses to search for mini beasts, discovering an abundance of ladybirds. This led to some lovely moments of curiosity, including children experiencing holding a ladybird for the first time.

The session ended with a group reflection around the fire circle, celebrating achievements and sharing what had been discovered.



Elm & Oak

Elm and Oak classes began their session discussing spring and seasonal change. Elm class took part in a practical activity focused on propagation, cutting willow from the school's willow arch and planting it to create a new hedge. The children carefully measured and marked out their planting area, ensuring their willow cuttings were secure in the ground.

The children then learned about the importance of pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, and how they support plant growth and food production. To help encourage pollinators, each child planted a flower bulb, carefully considering where and how it should be planted. The children compared different bulbs and discussed how they would grow into flowers later in the year.

Fire lighting skills were also developed, with children using flint and steel to ignite cotton wool. Oak class extended this into a challenge, experimenting with different natural materials to keep their fires burning. They discovered that dry bay leaves were particularly effective due to their oil content.

Throughout the activity, children followed safety procedures, including the correct respect position, and demonstrated excellent teamwork and communication.

The session concluded with a reflection on the day's achievements and discussions about future cooking activities.