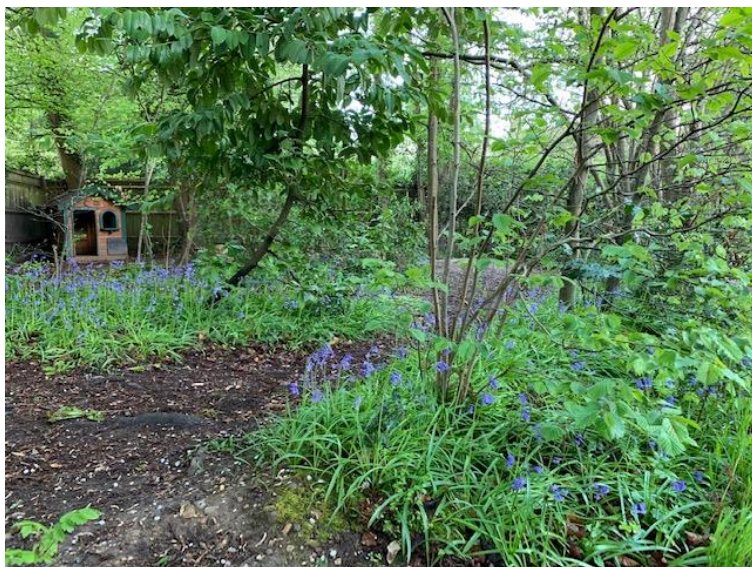


Jordans Forest School – Summer Term Update (May 2021)

The Spring has been a time of growth in the woodland and for our establishment of Jordans Forest School!



Training update:

Mrs Finn has now completed all the external training sessions and Forest School Skills Days (which included everything from using a bow-saw and safe cooking on campfires to making “fast-up-fast-down” shelters....which should come in handy with our ever-changing weather conditions)! These activities

and skills will all be included at various stages within our Forest School programme!

At the end of April, with courses up and running again, Mrs Finn also gained the required qualification in Outdoor Paediatric

First Aid – so we are now fully ready for expanding our Forest School fun!

Meanwhile back in our Bluebell Wood:

Since the children have been back in school, they have certainly noticed the additional natural materials which have been added to our woodland area and available to them all during forest-fun breaktimes/lunchtimes or in sessions exploring the woodland. It has been wonderful to observe how inspired the children have been in their exploration of their natural environment.....and how creative they can be....large logs have been used to create dens, sticks used to create mini “campfires” & fallen catkins have been stroked, closely observed and used as counting materials!

Watching the children work together to build their log structure dens (which they have rightly been very proud of) has highlighted how Forest School experiences can benefit their social, communication and teamworking skills – it was great to see them discuss their plans and work together to move larger logs and to build safely! Their efforts in moving materials also had obvious physical benefits.....sometimes it

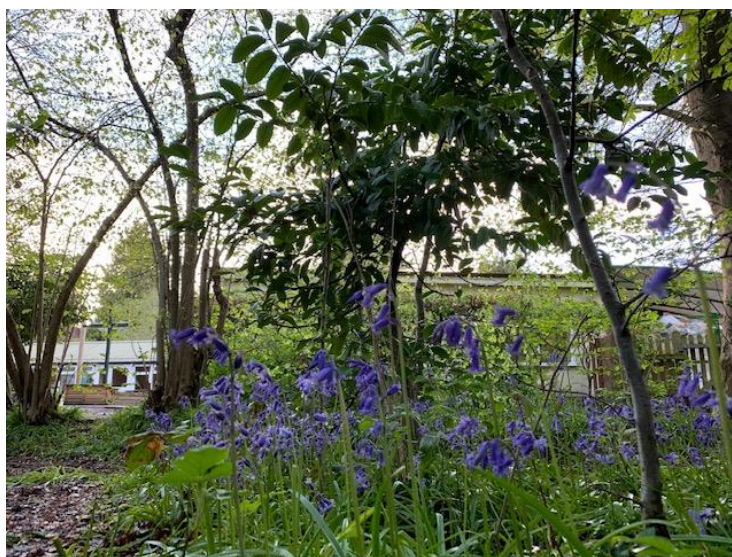


looked like a better workout than many gym sessions! Once the physical work was done and the den created, the creative explorations began in earnest -it is amazing how many different ideas our imaginative children create from a world of logs and leaves!

The opportunity to observe how the children choose to use the woodland has been useful in creating and planning resourcing for our new *"Introduction to Forest School Programme"* which will begin for Year 2 on Monday 17th May! We are continuing to source natural materials from the local area to provide a wealth of resources and opportunities for our children to use – so please do contact us if you have any materials you think might be useful! We are hugely grateful for the donations and support we have received from our Jordans families and community – there are even more logs arriving this weekend thanks to some fabulous parent support!

What's new in the woodland this season?

Our efforts to protect our bluebells have been rewarded with some fabulous drifts of blue under the trees! This has provided a beautiful natural play-space for all the children to enjoy – and some fantastic flowers for closer observation!



As part of our Forest School provision, we will be looking closely at our bluebells and Mrs Finn has created a bluebell resource pack with information which will be available and accessible for all the children to develop their understanding of these seasonal delights! If you or your children are inspired to find more bluebells whilst the season lasts – there are plenty of amazing bluebell woods locally including Hodgemoor Woods (Chalfont St Giles) and Leachcroft Woods (Chalfont St Peter) and they're both free to visit!

Year 2 Parents/Guardians – Please remember to read your information pack and return the permission slips. Please also look out for the weather forecast for Mondays to ensure that you send your child with the appropriate clothing - so we will all be ready for Forest School, whatever the weather! Thank you.

*Happy bluebell season to everyone!
from Jordans Forest School*

