



16 January 2025

Dear Families

Outdoor Learning Experience Days – Tuesday 21 January and Tuesday 4 February 2025

Following the success of last term's outdoor learning adventure and team-building days, we are delighted to continue offering hands-on, engaging learning opportunities for our students. This term, we have arranged two Outdoor Learning Experience Days that promise to be both educational and enjoyable.

Tuesday 21 January 2025 – Environmental Conservation at Gravetye Manor

On Tuesday 21 January 2025, we will be collaborating with Gravetye Manor to engage in environmental conservation work on their grounds. Led by Gravetye Manor employees, the activities will include:

- Planting trees
- Building "dead hedges" to support insects and amphibians
- Coppicing hazel woodland for the reintroduction of dormice

Tuesday 4 February 2025 – Bush Craft at a Local Woodland in East Grinstead

On Tuesday 4 February 2025, students will participate in a bush craft session designed to enhance teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and leadership skills. Students will learn the principles of basic bush craft and develop practical skills, including:

- Understanding basic wilderness survival (shelter, fire, water)
- Identifying and foraging edible plants
- Building a fire using various methods
- Constructing a simple survival shelter
- Practicing basic navigation skills
- Applying leave-no-trace principles

We believe these activities offer invaluable opportunities for your child to engage in practical outdoor learning, develop new skills, and connect with the environment.

Travel and Logistics

Students will travel to and from the sites in the school minibus. To accommodate all students, we will organize the day into two groups:

- **Group 1:** Departing school at **9.00am** and returning by **10.55am**
- **Group 2:** Departing school at **11.20am** and returning by **1.25pm**

All students will be back at school in time for lunch. Sackville staff will accompany students throughout the sessions.

What to Bring

Students should be prepared for outdoor activities in all weather conditions. They should bring suitable clothing to change into and their school uniform to change back into after the session. Recommended clothing includes:

- Trousers suitable for outdoor work
- Layers for warmth
- Wellington boots, walking boots, or work boots



- A full set of waterproofs, or at minimum a waterproof jacket

Behaviour Expectations

As we will be working alongside members of the public, it is essential that students demonstrate the highest standards of behaviour and respect for the environment. Any concerns about a student's behaviour may result in their return to school, where they will remain for the rest of the day.

Photography Consent

The William Robinson Gravetye Charity maintains a photographic record of the work done by students, which may also feature in their newsletter. Please complete the accompanying [Google Form](#) to indicate whether you give permission for photographs of your child to be taken.

Thank you for supporting these enriching learning opportunities. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Parry
Alternative Provision and PE Teacher