

# Outdoor learning in Strandtown

September 2021

Dear parents and guardians,

We are thrilled to announce that we have gained our NIFSA Forest School status and are now a fully-fledged 'Forest School.' Brian Poots (Manager of Northern Ireland Forest School Association) awarding our school plaque to Mrs Hutchinson and myself. We look forward to lots of outdoor learning adventures ahead!



## What is happening with our Forest Site?

The trees and hedges are growing well and a huge thank you to 'Strathearn Care Home' who kindly arranged for us to receive logs from their grounds to use for additional outdoor seating. The children will make great use of these. 😊

We are hoping to have the site strimmed in the coming weeks and would welcome any parental help in weeding the area.

## Long Term Vision:

We hope to have the forest site barked to allow nature trails and pathways through the trees.

## Next steps...

Brian also created an additional seating area behind our mobile classrooms which will allow these classrooms to bring learning outside more easily. We hope to plant shrubs and a hedge to create a garden feeling to this area.



## Outdoor Learning:



Investigating non-standard units of measuring in our Eco-Garden.

We used natural resources to create a metre square. Then we measured it and our estimate was very accurate!



October brings more falling leaves and with it Year 7 Andy Goldsworthy Art! Watch this space!

R McCoy