



Classrooms without walls.

Issue #7

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Why Learning Outside the Classroom is so important to Lyng Primary School

by Mr Fowler

Due to the current pandemic, the government has been actively promoting **learning outside the classroom**. The return to school has provided an even greater opportunity for our staff to continue planning and delivering a unique and engaging experience for our pupils by exploring subjects like art, maths, and science outside of classroom walls. The LOTC Mark is the only national accreditation for schools which celebrates their commitment to learning outside the classroom. We already have already been awarded the Bronze and Silver Awards and are now developing the curriculum even further to hopefully achieve Gold.

Learning outside the classroom has countless benefits for both our pupils and teachers that classroom lessons just cannot match. Research has shown that it:

- Improves children and teacher mental health and wellbeing
- Provides health benefits and increases physical activity
- Naturally encourages creativity, problem solving and teamwork
- Provides more accessibility and activities, especially for children with SEN
- Helps children learning about and connect with the environment they live

By taking learning beyond the classroom our children will find lots of opportunities to make learning concepts real and relevant by putting

them into a more realistic context. Many concepts which seem too difficult to get a grasp of in the classroom are a lot easier to understand outside when they're set in context, and when the children are more engaged and motivated to understand and learn.

This newsletter will hopefully outline some of the fantastic experiences that our children are experiencing. Speak to your children about it. I'm sure they will be able to tell you how much fun they are having and how much they have learnt!



The landscape at Lyng is changing! From the door of the Governor of- fice, this term alone I can see a fantastic new outdoor classroom, a huge new poly tunnel for our Edible Playground and a brand new orient- eering course. I am also aware that these things will soon be joined in the forest by two new 'roaring' mem- bers of our school community, who I know the children are really going to love.

Learning outside has become such a rich part of our school life here at Lyng. It is wonderful to see our chil- dren using these new, innovative activities which enrich their learning experience, and all whilst having an awful lot of fun.

As Governors, we can't wait to see what happens next!

*- Lynn Howard,
Chair of Governors*



Our LOTC stamp marks every lesson outside the classroom.



A beautiful environment inspires us all to look after it.



Year 5 creating some boutique insect accommodation.

Reception grows

By Mrs Langford

Over the past year the reception classes have had lots of work completed to enlarge their outdoor areas. The teachers and children make the most of this extra space every day. Now the children have even more

“I like to play with the water and make potions. I like to touch the leaves and smell them.”

Vinaya, RL



“I like to sit on the tyres and draw pictures. I can look around when I sit up high.”

Ajay, RL

Bookings open for Year 5 bug hotel

By Miss Evans

Year 5 have been busy designing and building new homes for our little bug friends who live around Lyng. Using materials found in the forest and around the school site they have made 5* luxury Bug Hotels. The children showed

fantastic teamwork skills and played to their strengths. To ensure our miniature friends do not go hungry during their stay in the hotels we've created



some bird feeders full of tasty goodness too.

“I can't wait to see which insects come to stay, I'm glad they have somewhere safe to sleep.”

Rhythm, 5E





These children are taking part in a maths lesson outside of the classroom.

Year 6 codebreakers hunt for clues

By Miss Barrett

Year 6 went to the forest for their maths lesson as part of their percentage unit. The mission was to crack Miss Wallace's and Miss Barrett's codes. Hidden in the forest were lots of different questions.

The children worked in teams to find the new price for items on sale. Once that part was solved, they had to find the new price, which corresponded with a letter. When all the questions were completed, the letters could then be unscrambled to form a sentence.

And the secret code? Well of course that was 'LOTC IS GREAT J.'

"I like learning outside in the forest area because we remember these lessons more as they are so fun!"

Sham, 6W



Year 3 discovers church in playground

By Miss Tong

In their RE lesson, the children arrived at our new Outdoor Classroom and discovered it had been turned into a church. They explored the different artefacts and information to find out the answers to our questions. They found about the altar, stained glass windows, bell tower, chalice and the font.

"It was really fun finding out about the different parts of the church outside!"

Mason, 3T



These children are taking part in an RE lesson outside of the classroom.



Using the hall means that children work on a bigger scale and get more involved.

Year 4 travel across the world... in the hall.

By Miss Beresford



Year 4, have thoroughly enjoyed their Commando Joe missions! In this particular lesson, the children linked their newly learned knowledge about the continents of the world to a mission about Nellie Bly. Year 4 have already learned that Nellie Bly was an explorer who journeyed around the world in 72 days.

The mission was to prepare a world map in order for Nellie to find her way around the globe. Children used atlases to create the seven continents of the world. They had to rely on teamwork

“This lesson helped us to understand more about the continents of the world.”

Diyo, 4PB

and their relationships with one another to communicate effectively. If that wasn't enough, they even linked their learning to the emotion card of the week which was 'Listening'.



These children are taking part in a maths lesson outside.

Nursery builds back better

By Mrs Sumner

Children learn and develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs. Our grounds provide the perfect space for children learn and grow.



The children in

"I am making a bridge I have to drill a hole. I like using the tools."

Syed, Nursery

nursery really enjoy playing in the construction area outside their classroom. They like to use the tools and their hands to take apart and assemble models. They like to design, build, connect, explore, create and critically think about what they are going to make and what materials they will need.



Year 1 take giant leaps on the Moon

by Mr Cooper

As part of our Moon Landing history topic Year 1 acted out the dramatic first

Moon landing. *"Michael Collins felt so sad because he couldn't go to the Moon. He just watched from his ship"*

There was jealousy between

Harry, 1C

some astronauts over who could and could not step onto the surface and competitions between others who imagined how high they would jump on the surface.

The result? Thirty beautifully written stories about life on the Moon.





Each child needs to be lower than the last, meaning lots of communication and teamwork is needed.

Commando Joe enlists Year 2 in a series of missions

By Mrs Brennan

At Lyng Primary, we have been working With Commando Joe for two years. The company uses the skills and expertise of ex-service personnel to improve teamwork, confidence and motivation in children.



This term Year 2 have been completing Commando Joe missions outside the classroom. One such mission was called 'Water is Life'. The aim was to provide water (balls) to a tribe using the equipment available. In this mission the children used balls to represent the water.

As a team, we had to think of a way to get the water across safely without losing it. The best way we found was to use each team member to hold the guttering



"It was so exciting to get the balls (water) across. My team was fantastic because we worked together to stop them dropping."

Himmat, 2B

steadily whilst we poured the water in carefully. To be successful in this mission we had to communicate well, be reflective and work well as a team.