

As a staff team, we need your help! If possible, please try to:

- Be prepared for messy children coming home!
- Encourage free play at home.
- Encourage respect for the environment and respect for others.
- Speak to your child about outdoor learning and play at school.
- Donate any spare or unused wellies, clothes or loose materials.

'The outdoors offers limitless potential to young children. It becomes a place where they can go to relax their mind, to be inspired and to deep dive into the world of imagination. It's a place where they can design, create and explore. The possibilities are endless.' Angela Hanscom.

'They're not just playing in nature, they are: Learning, creating, sensing, believing, relaxing, exploring, observing, wondering, connecting, discovering, appreciating, understanding, experimenting...' Penny Whitehouse.



**OUTDOOR
LEARNING
AND PLAY AT
MARGARET
WIX**



What has been going on with Outdoor Learning and Play?

Following on from some excellent training that all staff members had last term, led by Diane Miller at Learning Through Landscapes, we were able to order some amazing equipment to enhance outdoor learning and playtimes! With Diane's support, the school ordered £5000 worth of incredible resources for both EYFS, KS1 and KS2 and the children have been thoroughly enjoying them; it felt only right to share exactly what has been happening and what you might expect to hear about or see!



Why are we so passionate about outdoor learning and play at Margaret Wix?

We are so fortunate to have the vast green space and outdoor play areas that we do at Margaret Wix. We know that children of all ages thrive in the outdoors and that time spent outside can improve physical and mental wellbeing hugely.

At Margaret Wix we believe in providing a rich variety of outdoor play experiences where children can learn to explore our Learning Powers further. Your children will be learning to build **resilience**, be **curious** about our world, demonstrate **respect and kindness for others**, as well as develop social and behavioural skills, and **self-belief**, manage risk, problem solve, be creative and have fun!



The Benefits of Risk.

Developing children's ability to risk assess, gain confidence in their ability and build resilience is an important part of child development and something we value at Margaret Wix. Please check the school website to read our Play Policy which explains this rationale further.

What will my child be doing?

All children now have access to loose parts play materials such as; den building poles, tent pegs, carabiners, Velcro, clips and clamps, rope, fabrics, camo netting and tarpaulins for den building on the playgrounds at lunch times. They will be supervised by the adults on duty each day. As well as the den building equipment, we have plastic crates, wooden palette crates, tyres and drain pipe tubing. We can't wait to see what marvelous things the children create with all of this fabulous, new equipment!



