

Lower School Wild Child Charter

Research has shown the importance of nature to the human body and mind and also a clear link between the time spent in nature and improvements in areas such as motivation, problem solving and self esteem. Richard Louv says 'Time in nature is not leisure time; it is an essential investment in our children's health.' He believes children of this generation face the risk of 'nature deficit disorder.' A recent study found that the average American child spends seven minutes a day in free play outside and yet seven hours in front of a screen.

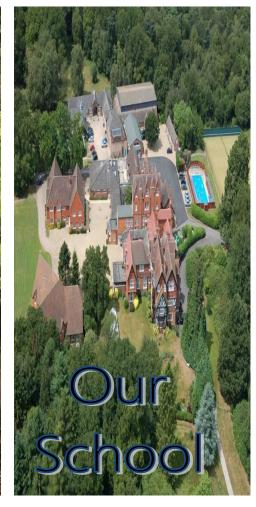
As a department we are committed to developing the whole child, both in and out of the classroom. With this in mind, as a team, we have created the Horris Hill Wild Child Charter. The charter sets out what we believe are the key experiences of a natural childhood. We believe our boys should have had all these experiences before they move into the Upper School. We will be working through these challenges each week and record the progress on a wild child tracker. Once the tracker is completed the boy is officially a Horris Hill Wild Child!

Lower School Wild Child Charter

The four strands that make up the Wild Child Charter......









Learn about safe forest play

Go out to play in all weathers

Climb trees

Make dens

Recognise trees in the local environment and know which ones are evergreen or deciduous

Roll down hills

Have a camp fire and sing camp fire songs

Go on mini beast hunts

Collect Autumn leaves

Have a picnic in the woods

Make natural art

Camouflage in the woods

Tie knots

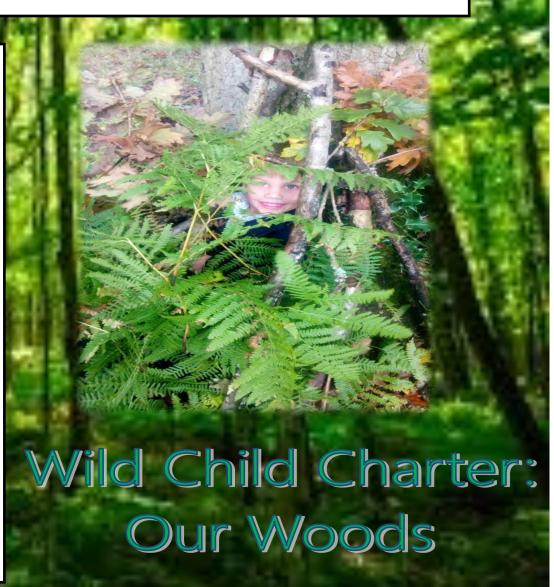
Whittle a stick

Collect conkers

Make mud pies

Build trust through team games.

Learn what animals live in our woods



Learn how to work safely in the garden

Watch a plant grow from seed

Understand what plants need to grow

Dig, weed, water and work the soil

Grow and harvest vegetables

Make a scarecrow

Learn about composting, recycling and mulching

Prepare healthy food, such as making salads and help prepare school lunches

Feed and care for sheep

Recognise different plants using their senses

Eat fruit/veg straight from the plant

Feed chickens and collect the eggs

Make bread from scratch



Identify different clouds

Collect rubbish

Recognise a variety of animal tracks

Know which animals hibernate

Recognise common butterflies

Use vegetables and leaves to dye fabric

Follow a life cycle
Identify common birds

Make a kite

Jump in puddles

Make a snowman

Go pond dipping

Recognise star constellations

Help a wild animal

Recognise the seasons



Wild Child Charter:
Our School

Dam a river

Visit a farm

Watch cows being milked

Skim stones

Collect shells at the beach

Visit a bee hive

Go pond dipping

Go paddling

Play pooh sticks

Use a compass



Wild Child Charter:
Our Local Area