



Press Release | 12 February 2014

Hartford pupils expand school woodland

Hartford pupils have been helping to sow the seeds for a greener future at a school woodland at Hartford Primary School, as part of a tree planting event coordinated by The Mersey Forest.

Year 3 pupils all pitched in to help members of The Mersey Forest team extend their school woodland.

The new trees will help enhance the school's natural play area, which is used for Forest School sessions.

Miss Fairweather, Head Teacher at Hartford Primary School, said: "Our Forest School sessions are a really important part of life at Hartford Primary School. They help to reconnect children with nature and teach important life skills such as team work.

"It's important that we enhance our Forest School area for future generations, and it was great to see so much enthusiasm from our year 3 pupils on the planting day."

Jo Sayers, Community Development Officer at The Mersey Forest, said: "We want to make Merseyside and North Cheshire one of the best places in the country to live, and this year we're planting thousands of trees across the region to achieve this vision as part of the Big Tree Plant."

The project is being coordinated by The Mersey Forest and funded by the Big Tree Plant and Woodland Trust.

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Notes to editors:

The Mersey Forest

The Mersey Forest is a growing network of woodlands and green spaces spread across Cheshire and Merseyside, which has been creating 'woodlands on your doorstep' for 20 years.

The Forest is one of the leading environmental regeneration initiatives in the North West. Through community and partnership working, we have planted more than 8 million trees - equivalent to five new trees for every person living within the Forest area.

The Forest helps our towns and cities adapt to climate change and has won the Brian Redhead Award for Environmental Sustainability, creates woodlands that 20% of local people visit at least once a week, and by improving the image of our towns and cities sets the scene for growth within the region's £98 billion economy.

We achieve all of this and more through our partnership of local authorities, landowners, the Forestry Commission, Natural England and businesses including United Utilities.

www.merseyforest.org.uk

Big Tree Plant

The Big Tree Plant is a national campaign that helps people and communities across England to plant more trees where they live and work. Our target is to plant 1 million additional trees by April 2015.

Details of the campaign can be found at: www.direct.gov.uk/thebigtreeplant

The campaign has the support of major bodies including Defra and the Forestry Commission, environmental charities and other agencies including England's Community Forests and the Woodland Trust