



Press Release | 25 February 2015

New trees enhance outdoor play at Parish Primary

Parish Primary School pupils have taken their outdoor space to the next level by planting dozens of new trees.

Children and their parents planted the trees in the school's new woodland area, supervised by members of The Mersey Forest team and Parish Primary staff.

The woodland is to be used by the school to host confidence-boosting Forest School sessions, which use natural play to help children to learn about the environment in a woodland setting.

The trees were funded by Big Tree Plant and Woodland Trust as part of The Mersey Forest, and also by ForeStClim.

Michelle Highcock, from Parish Primary School, said: "Learning outdoors is an important aspect of the curriculum at Parish Primary. The new trees will enhance the area, enabling us to teach pupils about the life-cycle of trees and providing materials for practical tasks."

Jo Sayers, Community Development Officer at The Mersey Forest, said: "These trees will greatly enhance the school's woodland habitat and will be enjoyed by the children there for years to come."

ENDS

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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 more than 20 years.

The Forest is one of the leading environmental regeneration initiatives in the North West. Through community and partnership working, we have planted 9 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, 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, the Environment Agency and businesses.

www.merseyforest.org.uk

The 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.

ForeStClim

ForeStClim brings together a wide range of experts from the United Kingdom and other countries in Europe to work on issues relating to climate change and forestry. This project has received European Regional Development Funding through Interreg IVB.

