



Somerset & Blackdown Hills Cluster Group

www.blackdownforestschoools.ning.com

September 2010 Update

Our next Cluster group meeting is on Monday 27th September at the Bothy on John Greenshiedls, Park Farm, Wellington (OS grid ref ST 132176) Directions on last page.

Come along and meet other practitioners, share ideas, experiences and skills.

As we are keeping it practical over the summers lighter evenings. I have asked Gareth Machell (Forest School Leader & Tree Surgeon) to run a session on making a folding saw bench that you could take back to your woodlands or school. The session will be free but if you would like to take one home with you we will have to ask for a contribution to cover material costs. We could give you a receipt so you can claim it back. I have yet to cost this but I imagine it won't be over £25.00.



Blackdown Woodland Fair

We had a very successful stand at the woodland Fair raising £80.00 from selling campfire tea & coffee, home made cake & our DVD. We also ran free fire by friction demonstrations, name cookie and woodland creature making sessions.

A big thank-you to all that came along and helped.

The Ning site is still up and running, we have paid for a few months but as they now charge we have been exploring other avenues to keep in touch so Keep up to date and share ideas on [facebook](#) look up "Somerset & Blackdown Hills Forest School Cluster Group"

Website update

The website team have meet twice now and will hopefully have something to show you at the next meeting.

DVD

Requests for our DVD are still trickling in. If you know of anyone who might want one, we ask for a £5 donation to cover postage and packaging and you can get them by contacting Caroline on 01823 680846 or email caroline.newcombe@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Contacts

Clare Neenan	clare.neenan@forestry.gsi.gov.uk	Mobile	07825 826406
Claire Whalley	CWhalley1@educ.somerset.gov.uk	Mobile	07986 731410
Polly Pring	jcpring@btinternet.com		
Joe Andrews	joseph.andrews@hotmail.co.uk	Mobile	07825 296443



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Support our neighbouring Cluster Groups Open Day at Hallr Wood,
Charlton Mackrell **Sunday 12th September** 2:00-6:00 pm.

Have a go on a spring pole lathe, shave horse & at spinning.

**Special time from 2:00 - 3:30 for forest school leaders and other colleagues,
meet other practitioners, support our planning application for mixed
educational/ forestry use.**

(This can also be done on line when we submit our 3rd attempt later this
month!)

Hope to see some of you.

Kind regards,

Deb Millar

Central Somerset Outdoor Learning Partnership

Wilderwoods Forest School

www.wilderwoods.org

email:forestschool@beccott.com

tel 01458 223444

mob: 07778563611

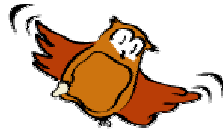
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FOREST EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Forest Education and the Primary Curriculum

Wednesday 15th September 2010,
Tide~ Centre, Millennium Point, Curzon Street, Birmingham B4 XG
<http://www.tidegloballearning.net>

A one day course for FEI cluster group members who would like to refresh their own practice, and catch up with what is happening in the primary curriculum.

The course will be facilitated by Ben Ballin from Tide~ global learning. Ben has been leading work through the Tide~ teachers' network, around creative curriculum development at a time of great change for primary schools.

10am	Registration and coffee
10.30	Welcome and introductions
10.45	Update on the primary curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The primary curriculum - old and new▪ The bigger picture: whole school approaches, Every Child Matters, The Cambridge Primary Review▪ Learning outside the classroom▪ Ofsted – good and outstanding primary schools
11.30	Stimulus – how some schools are responding Discussion - What initial opportunities do we see?
11.45	Coffee
12 noon	Creative session – Forest education & the primary curriculum
12.45	Lunch
1.30	Making plans - Resources and opportunities
2.30	Action planning
3.15	Plenary and evaluation
3.30	Finish

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Free prizes, T shirts & pencils, competitions & Class activities!

FSC Friday Sept 24th 2010 Working Together to Celebrate Responsible Forestry



FSC Friday posters were designed and printed in A3 and A4 format, with the option of incorporating event details onto one of the designs. The posters were supplemented with DL size flyers giving more information on FSC Friday. Generic FSC posters, factsheets, leaflets and flyers of the children's word-search competition were also printed and distributed.

T-shirts and pencils were distributed to event organisers, along with suitable prizes for those wishing to run competitions. Prizes were also offered for the best photographs and for the most innovative celebration of FSC Friday.

Many event organisers came up with innovative ideas for suitable "FSC Friday" activities - others wanted advice and ideas. As well as walks, treasure hunts and other forest-based activities, events were also held in classrooms and scout huts and these proved to be very effective in conveying the FSC message. FSC UK can provide details of some of the most successful games and activities undertaken.

The next FSC Friday will take place on **Friday 24th September 2010**.

As a small charity, FSC UK will only be successful in making FSC Friday a truly national event with the support and enthusiasm of other organisations and individuals.

Please contact FSC UK if you would like to be involved in any way.



*FSC-UK Working Group
11-13 Great Oak Street
Llanidloes
Powys
SY18 6BU*

*Tel. 01686 413 916
Fax. 01686 412 176
E-mail: info@fsc-uk.org*

www.fsc-uk.org

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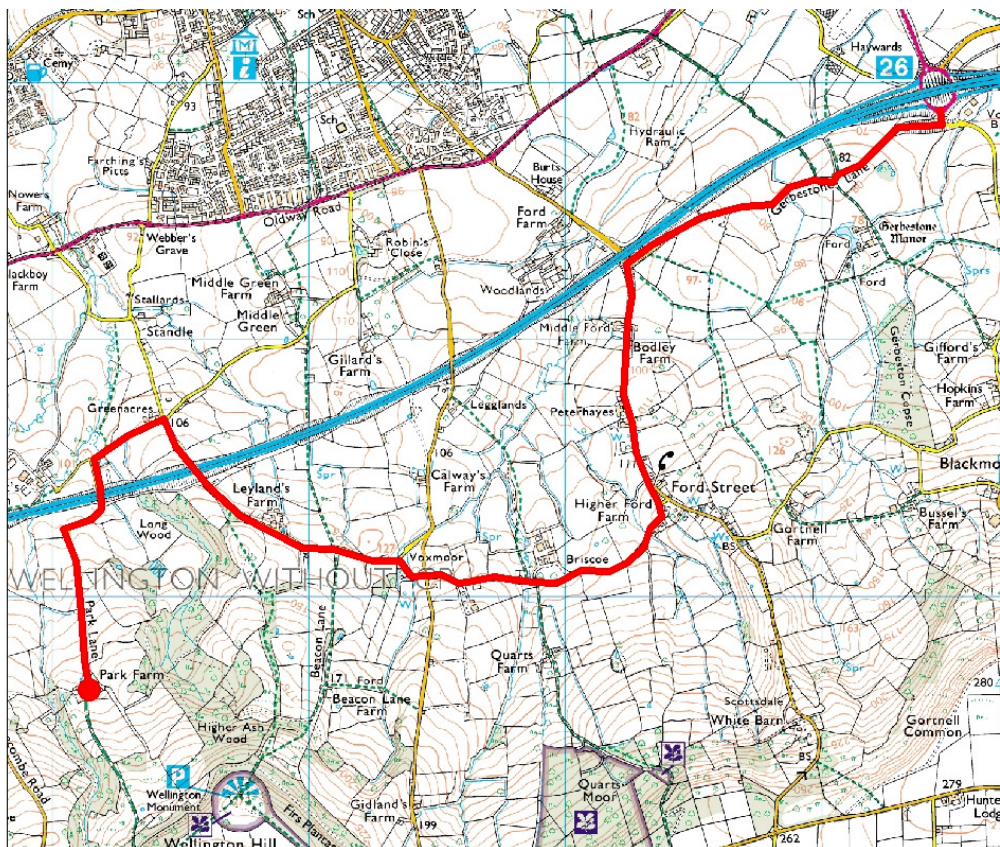
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Directions to Park Farm, Wellington (OS grid ref ST 132176)

From M5 Junction 26 take the exit south (signposted Ruggin). At T-junction turn right, and follow road as it narrows, round several sharp bends, until it meets another T-junction, alongside motorway bridge. Turn left, and follow road uphill into Ford Street. Here, take right fork onto minor road, and follow this for 1 km to a crossroads. Go straight across, and bear left at junction, then follow this lane until it crosses the motorway. Soon after, take first left, then left again signposted to Park Farm. Track goes under motorway again, then continues uphill to farmyard. Bear right across the farmyard and up to the car park alongside the Bothy building.

Park Farm belongs to Neroche LSG member John Greenshields.

NB. No dogs allowed in the woodland at present



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