

The Jim Grogan Countryside and Wildlife Award 2011-12

This year at school we have furthered our involvement and appreciation of the outdoors and the environment.

The community woodland has continued to be used for lessons, nature walks and sports. Further to this, Grogan's walk was used as the basis of the whole term's learning for our Year 3 class in the autumn term. It inspired all the children in not only their scientific learning about nature, but also in filmmaking, English and maths – amongst other things.

Also this academic year, all of our children have been involved in Forest School at the Broomheath Plantation – developing a range of skills and aptitudes that would not be possible in the traditional classroom environment.

The school grounds were also developed and used greatly by the children who have been involved in the planting of many trees and flowers, as well as the building of the live willow tunnel.

This Year's award goes to Becky Cheadle in Year 3. Becky showed massive interest in the Grogan's Walk project. She was particularly inquisitive and keen to find out about the trees in the woodland, especially concerning growth patterns and how the environment affects their shape and size. She was also very curious to discover how the native flora is managed – learning much in the process.

Becky not only increased her own knowledge greatly, but also that of others. She was able to help other children in their learning and produced a fantastic short film with her team about the walk which was featured as a part of the whole school exhibition.

Later in the year, Becky showed great skill and accomplishment in the outdoor environment as she threw herself wholeheartedly into the Forest School programme. Here, Becky was seen to be particularly adept at bushcraft skills and tracking using her natural environment - she clearly felt at home in the great outdoors.

Becky has been chosen to win this year's award because of the marvellous way she has involved herself in all aspects of outdoor learning and for the way that this has developed her personally.

Andrew Davies
Headteacher
Tarvin Primary
School

Stuart Exell
Chairman
Tarvin
Community
Woodland Trust

17th July 2012