Welcome to this weeks Tapestry Information Post all about Woodwork in the Early Years.

At Norcot we have begun to introduce woodwork as an area of provision for our children. We have followed the lead of Pete Moorhouse and have undertaken training on how to introduce the children safely to the different tools available.

The information below is taken from Pete Moorhouse's book 'Woodwork in the Early Years'.

Children now in their early years may have future professions that do not yet exist. It is more important than ever for the new generation to be able to think creatively and develop problem-solving skills. Woodwork exercises such skills as children make their own choices and learn through trial and error. It sparks creative thinking and imagination, qualities that are at least as important in our changing world as the practical skills gained. Woodwork invites connection between all aspects of learning and development – so it can be central to your curriculum.

Initially, children are taught how to use the tools safely and given opportunity to try techniques in appropriate ways. As they gain mastery, delight and pride give their self-esteem a visible boost. Learning progresses at each child's individual pace. Once they have mastered basic skills, they move into open ended exploration, making unique creations. Now their imagination, creative thinking and problem-solving flourish as they meet and conquer their own challenges.

To read more about the power of woodwork in the Early Years, please follow the link: https://birthto5matters.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Woodwork-B25-2021.pdf

You will see photos of your children using the tools on Tapestry and eventually may have some exciting creations bought back home!

## Additional Information

Home Involvement:

If you have any bottle tops or corks that we could use to add to the bits of wood we would be very grateful as they are soft and can easily be hammered into.

You may want to extend your child's experience of woodwork at home – there are child sized tools available and we would recommend you start with balsa wood as it's soft and easy to hammer into.

If you have any questions then please come and see Rachel.