



Ottery Primary School Newsletter



11th March 2019

Garden Classroom

Hello from the Garden Classroom team,

As many of you will know we have been delivering garden classroom sessions across KS2 as part of the schools plan to have a more enriched learning across the school. The children have been working really hard in these sessions since September to tidy up the schools garden, repairing the raised beds, getting rid of rubbish and clutter, planning for the growing season and learning how to use lots of new tools,

Just before Christmas all the groups put their new skills to the test in creating a craft project to sell at our first 'Garden classroom stall'. I was so incredibly proud of all the children, they worked so hard and to see their faces as they sold their products was something to be hold!! We made a massive £70 and the children made a list of things that they thought would be useful to us over the rest of the growing year!! We have also been planning some other projects we would like to develop. We plan to open our Garden market very soon, these will be held on a Tuesday and Thursday after school in the KS2 playground near the garden area, look out for more details coming soon.

Another of our projects is to build a greenhouse using clear plastic bottles!! We love a bit of recycling ♻️. In the next couple of weeks we will be placing a large dumpy bag by the gate leading down to the school field. The bottles we will require are clear, 1lt, 1.5lt or 2lt bottles as pictured below and no lids!



(other brands are accepted ♻️)

Please don't use this bag for anything else! The size of the bottles is really important, so that we can put them into rows that fit together. Our other project for this year is to create a beautiful nature area for birds, bees and butterflies, and so we will be grateful for any donations of wild flower seeds, scented flowers and trees to attract our beautiful bees and butterflies, we will also be asking every child across the school to paint a stone for the new pathway through this area (more details to follow).

We would like to thank everyone for all their support in helping us to make the garden and woodland into fantastic areas to help enrich the children's learning, whilst these areas are still under development, I think you will agree that with lots of hard work from both the children and staff it is starting to look lovely!!

Massive thanks go to Connor Down for donating all the woodchip we need!! He has been really helpful and we are very grateful, thanks also go to Coleridge preschool for helping us to get a massive donation of compost and for the new (to us) benches that are sitting very nicely in our garden classroom.

Dates for the diary:

Year 3 to Kings – Tag Rugby	Tuesday 12 th March
PTA Meeting	Thursday 14 th March 7pm
Comic Relief	Friday 15 th March
Year 4 to Exeter City FC	Friday 15 th March
Year 4 – Orienteering at Killerton	Monday 25 th March
Year 3 to Kents Cavern	Wednesday 27 th March
Last day of Spring Term	Friday 5 th April
First day of Summer Term	Tuesday 23 rd April
Festival of Music	Friday 26 th April (pm)
Warren Barn week (Year 5)	w/c 29 th April
Half-term	w/c 27 th May
Inset days – school closed to children	3 rd and 4 th June
PGL (Year 6)	14 th -17 th June
Summer Fête	Saturday 20 th July
Last day of Summer Term	Thursday 25 th July