

Bulletin 3 – 2019

This is the second bulletin of the academic year of 2018-2019 and follows the first which was shared in September. Much has happened since then with more concrete plans now that two sources of funding have been successfully won: These are primarily in order to pay two part-time gardeners Tia and Mitch, and have themed projects.

The first application was titled 'Let growing our Food raise STEAM achievement' and came from The Ernest Cook Trust. This is to develop the Woodland Garden, which began last year involving year 5 and the free services of Bridport Town Council. It is also supporting our wish to provide activities directly relating to National Curriculum Cornerstone topics. I want to thank Tina for her help in writing this bid.

The second was from Dorset Garden Trust for a grant to install a mud kitchen in the edible garden and rearrange the north side, to make it work better as a space.

Woodland Garden

For this project, the input of the edible garden team, needs to be planned. Tia and Mitch have some flexibility in how their time is used and we would love to meet up with staff involved soon after half term. Sarah and Kate have already had an initial chat; we are able to have some workshops covering Literacy, Technology, Science and Art. There is also money to have an event or two before the summer holidays or early in the Autumn term.

Daryl Chambers, Borough Surveyor, has promised sketch ideas to be sent to the school next week. His team are providing manpower and machines to clear the site and do some building. We are paying for materials and plants.

Bridport Food Festival and school Open Afternoon

For the 4th year running the Edible Garden is involved with the Food festival and committed to an open afternoon on **Friday 14th June and Saturday 15th June** in the Children's marquee at Asker's Meadows. This year we are fitting in with the overall theme of the marquee (organised by Ines Cavill) which is **Italy**. The EG team has lots of ideas for growing, cooking and eating because all kids like Italian food. Do you have any thoughts on this? Please let us know. Perhaps ideas for stalls, workshops and tastings?

Changes to the Edible Garden

You may have noticed that the garden is changing in the shape of beds and planting of food crops. We are keen to have currents, berries, fruits and leaves which can be picked, so the periphery 'hedge' has many more edible plants of soft fruit and fruit trees. The idea is that children might graze for ripe produce and pop it into their mouths, as fresh and sweet as can be.

Mitch's Fruit packs

Over the winter months Mitch has used his horticulture skills to build up a supply of plants such as fruit trees and bushes. He has an enterprise idea whereby he can set up fruit beds in other local schools. Mitch has stocks of raspberry, blackcurrant, gooseberry and red current bushes. He wants to be in touch with Bridport and neighbourhood schools to propose coming in and planting up, with some children involved. Mitch has a lot of experience, as he is part of the orchard group committee as well as having his own allotment. He is also a good teacher with our children. Does anyone have a

contact in another school which he could approach? Mitch is creating an information sheet with costings and time frame.

Mud Kitchen

The EG team have been busily clearing the ground and preparing for a Mud kitchen to be made and installed during the half – term. Please get in touch if you have specific pieces of equipment needed to service this play facility. And a good source of supplier?

Ideas for Wednesday pm workshops?

Having had to provide a list of main events in 2018 (for the Charity Commission), Sarah has attached a page to this bulletin email. You might like to look at it to see if there is something, we can do for your class this year? We are meeting up with Claire Legg on Wednesday 27th February 12.00 noon

Easter

The EG team are happy to participate with the Easter Show on **Thursday 4th April** at 3.15. Please advise us on what kind activities we could do and the timings. It would be instead of the Wednesday session.