

Garden Club News



Since September 2023, the Garden Club has worked hard learning new skills and tending to our little gardens around the school. With the help of the Site Team and the Friends of Moorlands we have been able to purchase a polytunnel which has now been put up on

site of our newly proposed garden area. The Garden Club members, as well as the children of Moorlands, are hoping to help this area grow and flourish into a great outdoor site for learning and exploration in the future and a new little orchard has already been planted by some of the pupils assisted by Mr Constance and Mr Lewis, our Site Team.

Biodiversity

We have spent a lot of time looking at how many different kinds of life we currently have in our school garden areas. We went on a bug & plant hunt and found which plants, animals

and insects are here and discussed how we can improve areas to attract more into our gardens. This led to a great lesson about habitats not only here in Moorlands but around the world! Two of our members have already started to reconstruct the old bug house to help encourage more



of our creepy crawly friends by using logs, sticks and leaves they found while exploring the old wooded area.



Last year we created a Hedgehog house from cardboard boxes, twigs and leaves and it was exciting to see a little hedgehog on the playground in the spring. It was, of course, rescued by Mr Lewis and taken to a safe place. Sites for our bird house and boxes have been established and we are looking forward to seeing these go up very soon! The children have also spent time weeding and tending to our

Wild Garden and have had great pleasure introducing it to members of their class to study the plants and flowers that grow there during their science lessons. They have added a nice little resting water station for the bees and butterflies and learnt a lot about pollination and the importance of it.



Getting our hands dirty!

Garden Club members have spent lots of time repairing our green house and building structures to use within the garden such as a homemade trellis for the beans they have planted.



Our sunflower seedlings were a great success this year and the children painted their own pots to transplant them into before taking them home. Some of them have been left on site so keep an eye out for them popping up in the summer!



As well as beans and sunflowers we have also learnt how to grow plants from leftover vegetables from home. The children enjoyed slicing up over ripe tomatoes and planting them to see if any would grow. We have had a very good crop of them from these few slices and the children have now transplanted them into the new polytunnel on site. Mrs

Sargent found a few sprouted potatoes in the bottom of her cupboard, so they decided to plant these as well and we are happy to report that these are currently growing nicely in our potato bags. The children are very excited to see what we can gather when it comes to harvesting them.

We are very grateful for all of the help and support the Garden Club has received from the local community this year. It really is amazing how generous you have all been and we would like to say a big **thank you** to everyone who has donated items, they have been very much appreciated by us all.