

Home Grown

@ Henlow

News and
Updates from
the Beds!

GROW YOUR OWN

News from the Garden

Spring is almost sprung and it's an exciting time in the garden. New growth, new ideas, lots to do, plant and learn. The bulb garden is looking beautiful, the snowdrops are making way for crocus, tulips and Narcissus, and nestled under the soil are a host of bulbs which will hopefully bloom taking us through summer, although that's jumping ahead a bit. The giant Buddleia will be getting a much needed pruning, but don't worry, they will be quick enough to grow back and show some colour later in the year ready to feed butterflies. I'll be working my way around all the flowerbeds over spring and bringing plenty of colour with me hopefully.

Over on the other side of the fence are some new additions, 2 mini greenhouses where you can watch seedlings start and tomatoes grow. In the beds will be new fruits and vegetables plus a salad garden (if the slugs don't get it first). I have been reading up on vertical growing as a way to expand the growing area, I am very excited to give that a go. With all the digging and planting it is going to be a very busy spring.

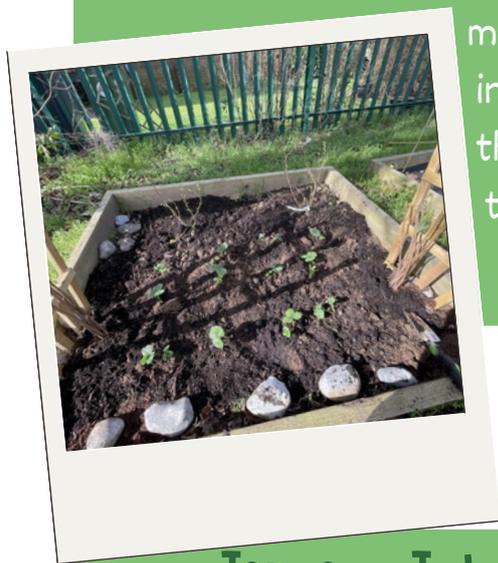


Let's Talk Weather!

'There's no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothing, so get yourself a raincoat and live a little'
Billy Connolly.



He's got a point, to a point. You will find me in the garden, at school or home in all kinds of weather if there is a job to be done. Luckily over winter, if all the prep work has been completed in advance, you can mostly stay cozy with a nice cup of hot chocolate and winter in with the semi bare beds. But spring is coming. If, like me, you run on the astronomical timings, it arrives on the 20th March and with it I'm sure it will bring a whole variety of weather, March frosts, April showers, beautiful sunshine and everything in between. As much as it's a bit of a pain for us having to keep changing clothes and plans, for the gardens it is fantastic. The sun warms the soil, helps germination, and the rain keeps everything watered and growing, in fact, its an important part of our growing cycle in this country and we are in great danger of losing it due to climate change. Hotter dryer springs are making crop growth difficult. So as much as changeable weather is not my favourite to be out in, I think I'll take Billy's advice, don the raincoat and be thankful for the beauty in all weathers that help us grow these amazing plants and appreciate that we live in a seasonal zone.



January Jobs



Start sowing seeds.
Plant strawberries.
Establish soft fruits like raspberries



Prune plants like Buddleia.
Weeding.
Rake over beds ready for planting.

If you would like to know more, have a question or a suggestion please feel free to contact Mrs. Evans who will pass your messages on.
Thank you. - Mrs Swindle