



Wootton Bassett Infants' School

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Headteacher: Mrs Alison Pass

Dear Parents/ Carers,

If you live in the vicinity of Vale View, you may have noticed some changes to the triangular piece of land on the corner.

We are really pleased to be involved in the development of the land into a community garden. The town council, along with Horizon College and the town's eco and garden groups, among others, have joined forces to develop a plan for the garden that will include educational opportunities for the children in our school. (see plan attached with this letter).



The project's representative, Andy Carr (a Grandparent and school governor) introduced the initial plan to us in September and our school and eco councillors have coordinated ideas and suggestions from our children to help decide what might be included in the garden. Our children thought about who might use the garden and came up with ideas so that the garden can be enjoyed by all- they were keen to see a bug hotel, areas for growing flowers and vegetables, a pond, places to sit and even a fairy garden for the fairies!

Being invited to take part in developing the Vale View project will allow us to promote and support our ethos and vision whilst at the same time supporting our curriculum.

As a credited Eco school, we strive to show our respect for the environment and the local area. Through our science curriculum we teach the children:

- about animals (inc humans);
- an understanding of how things grow and how we can support ecosystems and habitats for sustaining biodiversity.

One thing we don't have access to at present is a pond and we can see that there is a plan for one which is an exciting prospect and opens up a whole new habitat for the children to explore safely.

Outdoor learning supports the children's wellbeing and mindfulness, and of course we know that most of our children love being outdoors. There are many recreational and educational advantages to Vale View Garden, and we are confident that everyone will benefit from it.

The project has developed at pace and the garden is due to be opened on Friday 3rd May. Many local businesses are now involved and there has been a real community effort to source and develop the area in full.

If you think you might be able to help with resourcing or supporting the project in any way, please contact the school office.

We will keep you informed about the progress of the project and look forward to sharing the garden with you and the local community when it is completed.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Pass

