

NEWSLETTER

Message from The Headteacher

It's my last go at this. I have had the privilege of being the Headteacher here for eight years and I am truly grateful to have had that opportunity.

I am grateful for my colleagues; they are an incredible group of people, hardworking, talented, dedicated and focused, and I do mean all of them, those who work in classrooms and those who work in offices, kitchens, dinner halls, playgrounds, gardens or all of the above!

I am grateful to have spent so much of my working life with young people whose capacity to enchant, bewilder, confuse and delight us older people is boundless! It has been a truly rich experience getting to know all of them.

Finally I am grateful to all of the parents and carers, for your trust, acceptance and support.

I believe that the focus and resilience of the team here, coupled with support from new staff members and all of you, will ensure that this transition is no more than a small bump in the road on this school's continued journey towards being the very best it can be, for all of the children.

Thank you all.

Hugh Vivian
Headteacher



Hollickwood Young Gardeners

"WOW, and again WOW!"

If the name "SUPERMUM" originated from Hollickwood School, then it doesn't surprise me.

Last Sunday we had a workday, mostly clearing years of brambles from the 'Wild garden' or our newly named 'Whispering Wild garden'.

It was an amazing turnout, mums and children arriving 'Tooled Up' and ready to take no Brambles prisoners!

Iskra and Victor set to and devastated the pond surround with Kirstie starting at opposite ends and meeting triumphantly, reminded me of how they conquered the Channel Tunnel! Victor Z. made so, so many journeys with the trolley piled high with brambles, no obstacle paused him, going 'off road' and 4 wheel drive loading and unloading, was a sight to behold, what a team! Our 'vertical' garden can now be realised.

Susan, Lenka and Sue decided a fallen tree was no obstacle and completely cleared another 'Nature Path' behind the playhouse, with cutters, saws, sweat and pure graft, all ready to be explored, and be rehomed for our 'Hedgehog home' initiative.

Victor G. was inspiring, with a vintage fireman's axe he singlehandedly cleared and cut up tons of branches to create an enormous log-pile, with the help of Lora. giving so many insects and minibeasts a much needed home.

Hannah, Freddie and Kitty with razor sharp cutters descended on the overgrown fence with a vengeance, clearing it all away to display our new tiered 'tyre stack', which is ready to plant up with shade loving plants and herbs.

Kitty, Hannah and Lora now attacked the 'mound' wading into the fray, the weeds never stood a chance! (I shall have to re-sharpen ALL the cutters now!)

Max S. was clearing away the debris transporting it, and tending to the huge bonfire that reduced all to ash, which we can now spread over the growing areas.

Hannah and her mum Sam, turned their attention to painting our newly created bench frames, (recycled from discarded picnic tables, to be installed on the two now newly cleared, levelled and paved areas by Lora and her mum Rita. Who then turned their gusto to clearing every stone and rock 'hazard' into an enormous 'Rock-pile' to home numerous minibeasts and 'Mason Bees'.

More seating will follow.

Freddie, at my elbow was forever asking "What do I do next" was a good all-rounder, but found his true calling delivering drinks to everyone whilst riding a tricycle!

Well, when you can now again enjoy the walk down the path to the 'Whispering Wild garden' it is thanks to Linden, armed with a massive pair of cutters scythed her way through, the whole length of path and verge, with mum Sam dragging the vast amount of cuttings towards the ever bigger bonfire. Most ably controlled by Richard.

This area, now looks phenomenal!

All ready to be used and enjoyed, the 'path' around the pond will be vertically planted pallets and carefully maintained. It will, hopefully become another educational sanctuary.

My own small event was finding the 'compost bin' door, under 1.5 meters of brambles, so now we can utilise that again.

Thank you, doesn't come anywhere near to value the time, care, energy, scratches and achievement.
But, Thank you.

Tim Ferrar
Resident Gardener



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Y1: Aizah: Always working hard, being polite and being a model student
Y2: River: Always setting a great example and displaying an amazing attitude to his learning
Y3: Harvey: An outstanding attitude in everything he does
Y4: Mariana: Working conscientiously in all lessons.
Y5: Aleena: Showing dedication to her work throughout the week
Y6: Eloise: Showing resilience even when she is finding the learning challenging.

And finally, from all the staff at Hollickwood, we would like to wish Mr Vivian a heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all the commitment, hard work and dedication to Hollickwood Primary School over the years.

