

Thank you to all of you that made it to the Family Gardening Day. We had a great day and all the children joined in – amazing how a 6 tonne pile of soil attracts children... and amazing how far dirt can travel!



Our new community gardener, Ann McCarron got to meet a lot of you and it is wonderful to have her on-board. She will be working at the school on Tuesdays from 9.30 – 1.30 and on the Family Gardening Days.

Special thanks go to the fathers and grandfathers who worked very hard on Saturday building 6 raised beds and transporting soil and children up and down the slope in wheelbarrows - I

hope your backs have recovered. A very special thank you must go to Harry McWhinney who came back on Monday to finish moving all the topsoil into the beds - you are a star!



We now have 5 raised beds in the polytunnel and a new raised bed outside for the soft fruit - we will be planting raspberries, red and blackcurrants, strawberries and the blueberry shrubs in the new outside bed. Ann is intending to get the children to plant a crop of potatoes in the raised beds in the tunnel, as well as other vegetables. Hopefully we'll get to harvest some of them before the end of the school year. It will also extend the growing season into the autumn and provide us with a sheltered place to garden in when the weather is bad. We will also be planting up the outside raised beds with flowers and vegies, including a big pumpkin patch this year - in time for Halloween. There will also be tubs and hanging baskets for the summer fair.



Our next **Family Gardening Day** is on **March 25th from 2.00pm - 5.00pm.** We will be building compost boxes in behind the greenhouse so please bring your hammers again and hedge shears if you have them. There will be plenty of seed sowing and planting up to do as well.

Many thanks.

Rachel