

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER PRIMARY SCHOOL GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club started in 2005; it began in a small way with tubs at each classroom door and then branching out into raised beds on the school site. Children from Years 3 - 6 (Juniors) sign up and there is an Autumn club from September to November, when we do a lot of tidying up and learning about seeds and planting bulbs. We then begin again in March and go through to the end of July. We have always been over-subscribed and the enthusiasm of the children is always amazing with many continuing through to the time they leave us for secondary school.

We are lucky to have the support of three members of the Bourton Horticultural Society who work alongside the children growing their crops and sharing their knowledge and experience.

For several years we held our own Gardening Club Show in school and suitable entries were then entered into the Society's show in August; but for the past three years the children have entered the Society's Show with their vegetables and other categories too. It was also at this time that the Ray Fardon Cup was presented to the best Bourton Primary School allotment holder, a keenly fought competition. Ray was a wonderful local gardener who believed in encouraging children into gardening.

The children of the Gardening Club work hard to look after their plots at break and lunchtimes, to grow a variety of vegetables and flowers for school dinners and themselves. They have learned how to grow from seed and through cuttings. They have learned to recognise weeds and why it is important to keep on top of them, they also have to remember to water their plots. A lot of them have been encouraged to continue growing at home.

Sue Kemeys, Gardening Club Leader July 2016

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER PRIMARY ACADEMY GARDENING CLUB



March - getting the allotments ready.



We each have our allotment now



We sowed seeds to raise plants for our allotments and for sale to raise money for the charity Thrive



April - weeding the kitchen beds.



Inspecting the winter-sown Broad Beans with the school cook.



Our Plant Sale raised £105.50



The crops are growing.



We sowed 15 different crops with varying success due to the weather



Judges from Bourton Horticultural Society decide who will win the Ray Fardon Cup.



Charlie is the winner!



Harvesting what is ready.



Harvest Home!