Nightingale Primary School

Sensory Garden Project

2021 - 2022

Dear Parents,

We're thrilled to let you know that a Sensory Garden is being built at the school. This is an ambitious and exciting project that the school is working on in partnership with the PTA and we have been discussing with Ms Langbridge the prospect of this being our main fundraising priority for 2021/2022.

The aim is to create a calming community space for the children inside the school grounds. Somewhere they can connect with nature and explore, enjoy outdoor lessons and work together to grow and nurture the garden.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

Studies have shown that pupils tend to have increased concentration and are more motivated, inspired and willing to learn when they are outdoors. This garden will provide an additional benefit to all children and particularly those who find it difficult to concentrate and engage inside a conventional classroom.

We'll be taking an area currently only used for the trampoline and turning it into a multi-functional space. This means all the children will be able to enjoy the sensory garden and teachers can easily integrate outdoor learning into the curriculum.

What makes it a sensory garden?

The garden will be designed to stimulate the five senses: taste, touch, sight, smell and sound. The sensory stimulation will come from a range of plants, scented flowers, herbs and fruit trees, a child-height water feature, textured paths, and outdoor seating made of natural materials.

What are the key stages in the project?

Stage 1 | Groundwork
Stage 2 | Water feature installation
Stage 3 | Planting

WELCOME
To our
BUG
HOTEL
room for all
(except wasps!)

What is the PTA's role in the project?

This project has come about through the sharing of ideas between Ms Langbridge and the PTA. Over the years, Ms Langbridge has been focussed on upgrading the external elements of the school. Creating an outdoor space for learning and reflection is the latest stage in this work.

We intend to donate £10K of PTA funds to the project, as well as help parents work with the school to create opportunities for the children to be actively involved with the planting and nurturing of the garden.

We may also issue a second grant payment to the school later in the year dependent on fundraising income.

WHAT DO WE WANT FROM PARENTS?.....

We want to give all parents the opportunity to feed back your thoughts on the project before the PTA Committee formally votes on whether to make a contribution to the garden.

The PTA vote takes place on Friday 10 December, and parents can attend the meeting or email feedback to ptanightingale@gmail.com

Thank you,

Nightingale Primary School PTA