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Headteacher Lynn Harrison

Wednesday 27th April 2022

Dear Pupils and Parents,

As you may already be aware, the village of Irthington has made it to the finals of Britain in Bloom. Here at school, we are very keen to get involved.

Things we have planned so far include:

Big Plant Week, we will be taking the children to plant wildflowers in the church ground, during the week commencing Tuesday 3rd May.

Garden survey, Class 3 will construct a survey to ascertain what aids to wildlife we have in the village of Irthington, the Britain in Bloom will distribute to households. Once the surveys are returned to school, the pupils will analyse the information and put together a report.

Environmental hopes and wishes, children will write their hopes and wishes for the environment on small wooden discs, which will be hung from the tree near the parish notice board.

Repurposing the raised beds, rather than plant vegetables in the raised beds in the school garden, we are turning the beds over to 'nature's friends' perennials this year. There is also the old shed to take down and the herb wheel needs some care and attention. We need to create some new bug hotels and the pond area needs a good tidy!

Replanting the planters, we need to replant the planters on the fence at the front of school with summer plants.

Art Competition. This is something for children to complete at home. We would like children to produce a piece of artwork (no bigger than A3) entitled 'What does Nature's Friend mean to me?' More details will follow shortly, but these pieces of artwork will be displayed in the school hall where the judging of Britain in Bloom will conclude and be part of the final portfolio. So, get your creative thinking caps on!

As you can see, we have committed to quite a lot in an already busy term so if any parent or grandparent could offer some time to help with any of these jobs please let me know, particularly in relation to the herb wheel, the removal of the shed and general gardening tasks. You can come during the school day, after school or at the weekend, or if you feel able run an afterschool gardening club! Donations of plants would also be gratefully received.

This is a really exciting project to be part of, and hopefully with your support it will be a big success! One final thing - children at school, keep your eyes open for Gwenny Gummidge, she will be appearing around the school grounds with messages and questions!!

Yours sincerely,

Lynn Harrison
Headteacher