

Rural Assignment – Agricultural Day 2017

The children will be growing a companion garden and keeping a diary of the process they follow.

Years 1 to 3 children need to have **two** different varieties of vegetable plant e.g. silver beet and radish plants.

Years 4 to 6 children need to have **four** different varieties of vegetable plant e.g. Lettuce, carrots, spring onions and beans.

Years 7 and 8 children need to have **six** different varieties of vegetable plant e.g. Carrots, lettuce, radishes, beans, beetroot and spring onions.

PLUS - Children will be required to plant at least two herbs AND one flowering plant with their vegetables that grow well together. These herbs AND flowering plants will be the type that has an impact on the health and yield of the vegetable plants. In order to discover what these herbs AND flowering plants might be your child will have to do some research and this will also need to be tabled in their diary.

[Good and Bad Companions for Vegetables](#) can be found by clicking on the title for the link to find information for your diary.

Planting will be best done from mid to end of July to allow at least ten to twelve weeks of growth. Refer to the growing chart at <http://www.almanac.com/content/vegetable-garden-planner> to help you.

Container for your garden: Because we are an EnviroSchool, as part of the criteria we prefer you to use your imagination and reuse or recycle materials as containers for your garden. Refer to <http://www.diynetwork.com/how-to/outdoors/gardening/upcycled-container-gardens-planters-and-vases-pictures> or <http://www.coupons.com/thegoodstuff/15-upcycled-planters/#> for tips on a range of containers that you can use.

The size of the container the garden is grown in will need to be of an adequate depth (not less than 15 cm) and will need to be of an adequate size to cope with the number of plants they are growing. We do prefer that strawberries are NOT grown as a companion as these are a fruit.

Your diary must contain:

- A title page
- Where the plants originated from
- The common and botanical names of all plants (The plants in your garden should also be labelled with these names - you will lose points if you don't have both common and botanical names in your garden)
- A table of the types of herbs and/or flowering plants that impact on the health and yield of the vegetables
- The choice of container (why you chose that container, whether you did the upcycling and how)
- How the planting was done
- What, if any, [fertilizers or insecticides](#) were used (were these environmentally friendly?)
- Growing conditions and placement in the garden - [planning your garden](#)
- The watering programme
- Uses for the plants being grown e.g. (salads, sauces, garnishes, medicines, ...)
- Sketches/labels/measurements of the plants growing
- Graphs of plant progress
- What learning took place for you by participating in this task

The gardens and diaries are to be handed in on the morning of the day before Agriculture Day (Friday the 27th October, 2017) for judging. If you need any further information please see Mrs White in Room 1 - Sample diaries are available to view at Junior, Intermediate and Senior levels.

REMEMBER: This is to be **YOUR** work **NOT** your parents.

GOOD LUCK, HAVE FUN AND HAPPY GARDENING

