

Rural Assignment – Agricultural Day 2019

All children not rearing an animal are expected to complete a Rural assignment. That means they will be growing a companion garden and keeping a diary of the process they follow. Students need to be aware that all Rural Assignments are judged in three categories: Presentation, Planting, and Diary. Check that you have covered the set criteria below thoroughly to gain maximum points in each category.

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 - ALL 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 a good 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. Or you can find your own by going onto google and typing in the title 'Good and bad companions for vegetables'.
- **Container for your garden:** Because we are a Silver EnviroSchool, part of the criteria is that your container is to be reused, recycled or upcycled for your garden. Refer to <http://www.diynetwork.com/how-to/outdoors/gardening/upcycled-container-gardens-planters-and-vases-pictures> or https://www.google.com/search?safe=strict&tbm=isch&q=reuse,+recycle+upcycle+containers+for+gardens&chips=q:reuse+recycle+upcycle+containers+for+gardens,online_chips:pallets,online_chips:planter+boxes&usg=AI4_-kRPhyO2wyCL0EJJ9ECodYUyAHHjww&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiO3eHyvo7jAhUEfisKHYHCBUgQ4IYIMSgH&biw=1440&bih=821&dpr=1 for tips on a range of containers that you can use.
- Planting will be best done from mid to end of July. This allows at least eleven to thirteen weeks growth for your vegetables. Refer to the growing chart at <https://www.tuigarden.co.nz/planting-calendar/> to help you.
- 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.

To gain maximum points your diary must contain:

- A title page
- A table of the types of herbs and/or flowering plants that impact on the health and yield of the vegetables - [Good and bad companions](#)
- The choice of container (why you chose that container, are you reusing it (how?), is it recycled (how?) or did you upcycle it yourself (how?))
- How the planting was done (the process you went through to get the plants into the container/s)
- 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
- Where the plants originated from e.g. capsicums originated from North America and Europe (Not Mitre 10)
- The common and botanical names of all plants (the plants in your garden **must** also be labelled with these names - you will lose points if you don't have **both** common and botanical names in your garden)
- Uses for the plants being grown e.g. (salads, sauces, garnishes, medicines, ...) Year 1 to 3 - must list at least 2 uses, Year 4 to 6 must list at least 5 uses, and Year 7 to 8 must list at least 7 uses
- Sketches/labels/measurements/graphs of the plants growing progress
- What has been the learning for you in participating in this task?

The gardens and diaries **are to be handed in on the morning before Agriculture Day (Friday the 18th October, 2019)** for judging. If you need any further information please see Mrs White in Kahikatea - 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

