Garden Team meeting - March 15th 2011 - Staff Room

Present: Tony Gainger, Michelle Rayner, Kellie O Connor, Mark Dykstra, Dave Sands, Abby Morrison, Kate Page, Erica Beatty, Nicola Ryan and Rosemary Kennedy.


Welcome to all new comers. Sharon Noble has also expressed interest in joining a will be welcome at any time.

Garden management plan A much needed management plan was discussed with all members present asked to comment on pertinent issue for the ongoing sustainable growth of the garden.
All the team agreed that there needs to be shared governance & responsibility within the school community for maintaining the beauty of our space.
The Ongoing curriculum for the children includes work and design in the garden but not maintenance or weeding as this responsibility needs to be with the community.
Some of the following are key areas that need to be managed on an ongoing basis;
Pruning, pathway management, pizza oven management for events, weeding, espalier, irrigation, animal husbandry, publicity and fundraising.
Action: Michelle to do timeline so that team can see when what specifics need to be done within set time frames.

Suggestions to meet these are:

- A weekly weedbee/ gardening group of interested parents and friends who would meet after drop off regularly to maintain the weeds. This weed sessions could also include monthly or bimonthly education sessions or workshops on pruning, weed identification and other much sought after garden knowledge. This group requires a member of the team to be responsible for organising speakers and cleaning up after the weedbee.
- Make the garden pay for itself.
- Workshops could be organised by the team for Saturday or Sunday mornings - open to the public and fee paying.
- Pizza Crew who would be ready & willing to provide pizzas for events, learning the art of producing pizza (minus the charred bits)
- The garden team need to get more friends involved.
- Need to keep it a beautiful space to be in
- Projects to be planned ahead such as the Wood shed for wood for Pizza oven
- Tool shed to be completed
- Someone needs to coordinate the publicity for the garden - newsletter and website updates more frequently than is currently happening. A parent with skills in ICT needed to drive the promotion of the garden.
- Also needed to source grants.
- Community based activities seen as important for the growth of the garden.
- Invite residents of respite centres and nursing homes to visit, ? if we could tie this in with clubs or CATs for Grade 6. Action Rosie to coordinate with Deb and team helpers
- Dry garden needs to be renovated
- Green roof needs renovation
- Beyond the wetlands to be developed. Michelle advise the team that this is on the agenda for future curriculum
- Put a regular advert in newsletter for donations of food for animals in eco centre.
- Erica suggested having bus tours to other gardens as a fundraiser (bus hire at reasonable rates)
- Having musical events in the garden

- Discussion re having a class parent and tapping into the networking that happens at school.

**Other Garden Issues:**

**Weather Station:** Erica's brother Evan will come to school after his return from the Antartica to sort out options for weather station. A great project will develop from this for Grade 6s - reporting on the weather from The Patch School!

Action team to volunteer to coordinate some of the above and to liaise with Rosie about starting the management plan. Action Rosie to meet Michelle Wednesday 23rd March in the afternoon to learn how to upload info onto newsletter
**Spending our winnings**  
The children want more furniture especially around the Grade 3 classroom.  
**Action Tony** will talk to Plants Plus about wholesale rate for us.

**Working Bee:**  
Next garden specific working Bee is June- 1st Sunday. John Rayner happy to do willow workshop at this Bee.

Next Garden team meeting  
**Tuesday 3rd May  7 30pm staff room.**