

Draft for

## **Projects in the garden over all year groups at RAPS**

Children in **year R** can grow bulbs and flowers in pots near their classroom.

Children in **year 1** can grow potatoes in the allotment garden. They will go into the ground in March and will be harvested and turned into a potato salad or another meal before the Summer Holidays.

Children in **year 2** could grow hyacinths for christmas in glass vases and watch the roots and leaves appear. They can start their own pumpkins in May from seed. The plants will grow and be quite big after Summer Holidays. The children, now in year 3, can learn about the plant's parts and functions (tendrils, flowers, fruit, seeds) and cook a pumpkin soup.

Children in **year 3** harvest pumpkins that they sowed in year2 and make a pumpkin soup in autumn. We also collect seeds from flowers and vegetables (eg. beans and peas). From the following spring, year 3 has the main of the allotment garden at their disposal to grow flowers, herbs and veg. Starting with carrots, artichokes and tomatoes and going through to the last batch of peas to be sown before the end of the school year. If possible they set up a market stall during summer term to sell their produce.

**Year 4** can choose a spot in the grounds to plant overwintering bulbs that flower in spring. They use the hedgehog tunnel to track the presence of an animal that is nocturnal. We can build nestboxes for different birds or bats, they all have different preferences for shape, materials and placing. We can set up a bee-observatory in the garden. We could have a bird bath, which needs topping up and cleaning regularly.

Each pupil in **Year 5** can choose a plant in autumn which we can propagate via cuttings. They are allowed to take their new plants home in spring or plant it out into the school grounds. Year 5 are allowed to pick flowers for their classroom or reception each week during spring and summer.

**Year 6** could be allowed to plant a tree or introduce a new plant into the school's garden. Or they could choose (in autumn) a certain fruit or veg they want to grow together in their own area in the garden. They could collect ideas, have some advise what different choices will involve and proceed with a vote to decide.

Stephanie