



Dorset Gardens Trust Schools



Our 15th e-newsletter

A new term and new ideas, welcome to the first 2019

DGT Schools e-newsletter!

In this edition:

- **Who was awarded a one-day RHS schools education course paid for by Dorset Gardens Trust**
- **Who is our 2019 DGT School Gardens Ambassador**
- **How to apply for a grant for your school garden**

CONGRATULATIONS TO EDD MOORE OUR FIRST DGT SCHOOLS AMBASSADOR.

Here is the first of his regular columns

Edd's Plot



I am the Eco Coordinator and I have been leading gardening at Damers First School for 6 years. I have a real passion for gardening and think it is really important that children learn where their food comes from, how to grow it and how to turn the vegetables and fruits they have grown into something to eat. The

children also learn about nature's life cycles and the importance of bees. We have a Ridan Food Waste Composter where all our food waste goes to be made in to compost for our garden to help our plants grow.

Gardening is embedded into our school curriculum. We have a bank of volunteers who come and work with the children during the afternoons teaching the children techniques of how to grow vegetables and fruit. The children really enjoy being out in the garden and have taken this further by growing vegetables at home, in their own gardens, allotments or in pots.

We have great support from our local Garden Centre on Poundbury who support us with seeds, plants, equipment and their expertise. This year we have made a huge effort to plan what we grow by the seasons which seems to be working really well. We have planted a new orchard with fruit trees given to us by Prince Charles to celebrate his 70th Birthday. We have also planted three trees with Sir Oliver Letwin MP as part of the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy. The children will start to sow vegetable seeds in the coming weeks which will be placed in our plastic bottle green house.

MANY THANKS TO EDD!

AND CONGRATULATIONS ALSO GO TO ANDY BEST OF WIMBORNE FIRST SCHOOL WHO WAS AWARDED THE RHS DAY COURSE.

We are looking forward to hearing how Andy got on. We will be awarding another free one-day course at an RHS centre again this year so do get your entries in early.

To enter our competition to win that place all you have to do is

write to us saying:

'How my school will benefit from an RHS schools gardening course'

- just 200 words please. Please send entries to

schools@dorsetgardenstrust.co.uk

IT'S A NEW YEAR - AND TIME TO MAKE SOME NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

WHY NOT MAKE IT A RESOLUTION THAT YOU WILL GET AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING TO US TO MAKE YOUR SCHOOL GARDEN DREAMS COME TRUE IN 2019

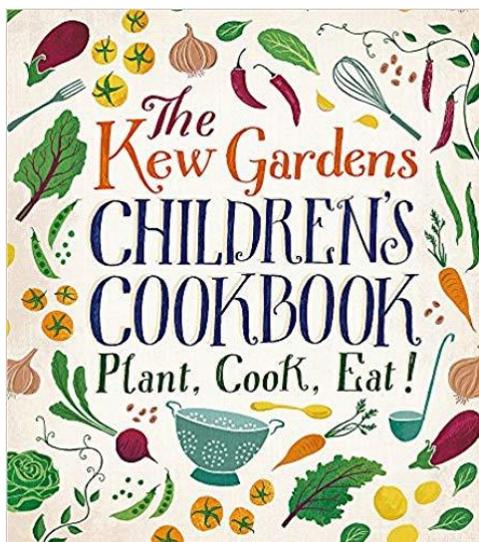
The Dorset Gardens Trust regards helping children to learn about the growing of plants and their value in our lives as one of its prime activities.

Grants up to a maximum of £500 are awarded to primary, middle and special schools to fund new projects for their school gardens. Advice and help is given to the school with initial planning, costing and layout of the proposed garden. Even on the most difficult sites gardens can be created and huge enjoyment gained by the children. It is very rewarding for them to be able to grow flowers and vegetables and then cook and eat the results of their hard work.

The Trust has made well over 100 grants to schools in the County. As well as helping with the administration, members of the Schools Group act as school visitors in their own area so that each school sees the same person each time they visit.

If you wish to know more about our grants for schools and whether your school would qualify please email schools@dorsetgardenstrust.co.uk

DON'T FORGET We have a copy of the excellent book



This will help AND inspire you in your vegetable garden, very good advice and recipes. To win a copy please send us details, written or a photo, of what you have grown this year. schools@dorsetgardenstrust.co.uk

Have a good term and do contact us if you would like to consider applying for a grant



GOOD GARDENING FROM THE SCHOOLS TEAM