

ISSUE

05

SUMMER

2020—2021

Coppell ISD School Garden Newsletter



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WHEN TO HARVEST: listen to your garden

Most vegetables tell YOU when they are ready to be harvested.

They turn colors, the rest of the plant dies back, the shoulders of the root show, or it forms a head.

so

1. Watch your garden.
2. Listen to what its saying.
3. Then harvest.

ONIONS, ONIONS, ONIONS!

The last Farm Fresh Friday of the oddest school year ever is Friday, May 21. (or Thursday if your Field Day is Friday)

We plan to harvest the onions on May 13 and 14.

PLAN YOUR HARVEST

Get a couple clean boxes. If you tell the Cafeteria Manager in time, she can save some for you. The kitchens always have boxes.



Go over your timetable with the Cafeteria Manager. The kitchens close at 2 PM. If you are planning the harvest after that time, let Larry know and he can make arrangements for someone to be in the kitchen.

HOW TO HARVEST

Pull onions, shake off the major dirt clogs/soil. **DO NOT WASH!**

Trim the roots, leaving about 1 inch.

Trim green tops, leaving about 6 inches. Put the trimmed tops and roots in the compost pile. Put the onions in the box.

Give the onion boxes to the Cafeteria Manager to put them in the cooler.

After Farm Fresh Friday, any leftover onions will go to the Metrocrest Food Bank.



CISD "GARDENS ARE
GETTING BETTER AND
BETTER EACH YEAR!"
FARMER LARRY



GRANT NEWS

The Coppell Child Nutrition Department's Texas Department of Agriculture 3 E's Grant is coming to a close in June 2021.

The objective of the program was "to increase awareness of the importance of good nutrition, especially for children, and to encourage children's health and well-being through Education, Exercise & Eating right."

Education, Exercise & Eating right."

The grant has supported every School Garden in Coppell ISD in one way or another. Child Nutrition applied for the grant in order to introduce produce from school gardens to children.

Produce from the gardens needs to go to the learners. It can go either through the kitchen, to be shared with all, or it can go straight to the classroom.

THANKS FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE TO MAKE THIS GRANT A SUCCESS!!

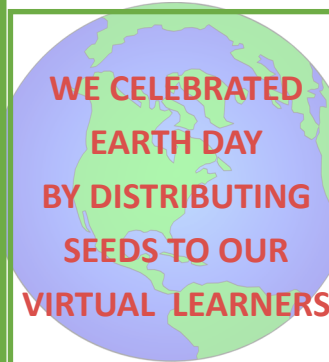


SY 20-21 THE LAST HARVEST

The last veggie we will be harvesting this school year is potatoes.

Please trim all the stems and knock the dirt off before you take them to the kitchen.

Child Nutrition will put the potatoes into the Bulk Meal Bags that we send home during the summer.



On Earth Day, we found these two 5th graders just completing an Earth Day Scavenger Hunt in the DCE garden. They were pretty proud of themselves, too.



We love it when the gardens aren't just for gardening!
There's lots of learning to be done!



Hooray for our Home Town!
**The Biodiversity Education Center won the
 Sadie Ray Graff Educational Institution Award
 From Beautify Texas**

The award is for educational institutions that provide programming to Pre K -College and encourage youth involvement through environmental education.
 We love their inclusive Citizen Science approach to our world.



**AND THANKS TO
 JEAN MOSLEY!**

Jean Mosley is retiring after 30 years as Director of Coppell ISD Child Nutrition. She is and has been one of the biggest supporters and cheerleaders for the Garden Program.

She is the person who found the TDA 3 E's Grant on the internet and led the effort with SHAC to write the application. She has held the purse strings, making sure the purchases are handled and reported properly. She has spearheaded the quarterly reports required by the terms of the grant. She worked with TDA to get the grant extended during COVID.

We will miss her wild and crazy ideas!

**Congratulations
 JEAN!!**



Summer Plans

Summer is LONG, HOT and DRY in Coppell!

Some gardens have volunteers year-round to help with watering. Some don't.

We have plans for both:

Active Gardens: will plant: 1 bed each of Black Eyed-Peas and Sweet Potatoes
 Clear all other beds

Inactive Gardens: Please clear your beds

What to do:

Harvest everything from the garden.

Talk to the Cafeteria Manager about your planned activities

The kitchens close at 2 PM. If you are harvesting later in the day, please talk to the Cafeteria Manager and Child Nutrition will work something out.

We hope to include your harvest on the lunch menu!