



Service Learning News

5.12.08

by Judy Brookhart

I hope that some of you have taken the opportunity to visit our new garden at the end of the school property near the pump house. Thanks to so many of you who have volunteered to help maintain it over the summer. In a week or two, I'll put together a master schedule, knowing that there will be lots of adjustments as summer plans evolve and change. I myself will be working all summer and can fill in, and Jimmy also has a passion for this little plot of land.

I received an email a couple of days ago from Mrs. Rich and Mrs. Schweier's preschool class. They had taken a walk to visit the garden, and were asking me whether they can put their pumpkin plant in it. The fourth grade is also transplanting the herbs they have grown from seed, and I am sure other grades will make contributions. I suspect our biggest problem is going to be space, which encourages me to beg for another plot on our newest piece of property for next year.



On another gardening note – seven years ago, the first graders were deeply moved by the death of a mom in their little community. As a memorial and visible support of her son who was their classmate, they planted a beautiful garden of daffodils. Each year (including this year when the members of that long ago first grade class are preparing to graduate from Old Trail) as they have bloomed it has been a reminder of the love that our families share for each other.

However, there has been a recent challenge because the renovation of the first grade classrooms includes the space where the daffodils have been growing. Mrs. Goumas and her friend Keith came to School last weekend and dug all the plants up. Then this week, the current first graders replanted them across the playground, where they are safe from construction and will continue to be a memorial. You can see their hard work in the accompanying pictures.



Serving together,

Judy Brookhart

Judy