

# PUPIL PARLIAMENT



Pupil Parliament have been collecting their classmates' opinions about the fruit and vegetables they would like to grow in our Edible Playground.

Christian (Y2) reported, "In 2B we discussed about vegetables to grow in the playground and the most popular fruit is the tomato. The least popular is the strawberry." Amra in 2B also reported that her class would like to grow bananas!

McCoy (Y5) told us, "The most popular was apple and the least popular was salad."

Izzy (Y5) told us that her class suggested, "Apples, pumpkins, blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, basil, rocket, cabbage, lettuce, potatoes, cherries and tomatoes, with the most suggested being apples."

Jessie (Y6) reported that the class chose apples, pears, strawberries, tomatoes and potatoes, saying that "The most popular was apples because they are sweet and sour. A lot of people like apples."

Markel (Y6) said, "We had many ideas, for example in Year 6 there were a lot of people who wanted there to be cucumbers planted and other foods such as tomatoes and apples."

Thank you Pupil Parliament for your work collecting the views of your classmates. We will be passing these on to the Edible Playground designers!



Edible  
Playgrounds

GREATER  
LONDON  
AUTHORITY

## Greenpeace

As part of their topic about the Arctic, Year 5 recently had a visit from a Greenpeace representative, who told them about the work Greenpeace do to protect the environment and how we can help.



## Year 2 Trip to London Zoo

This month, Year 2 had fun day out at London Zoo, linked to their science unit *Animals, Including Humans*.



Enjoy

Challenge

Achieve

Succeed

# De Beauvoir Primary School Newsletter



February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are very excited to share information about our upcoming Edible Playground build with you in this issue. The Edible Playground is being installed in March and will give each class their own growing space. We are looking forward to growing fruit and vegetables and to using our produce to make tasty snacks and meals!



The children have been enjoying the sunshine and warmer weather at break and lunch times this week. Please remind your child to bring a coat, even if the weather is warm, as the weather is likely to change! Please also check that clothing is named as unnamed jumpers and coats can easily be lost if they are taken off when children are playing. Pupils can bring a drink of plain, unflavoured water with them in a named reusable bottle so that they have easy access to drinking water in class.

I am really pleased to let you know that the charity *Place2Be* are going to be providing Mental Health Champion training for all staff at De Beauvoir in the coming year. This training has been sponsored by UBS and will help us to develop a systematic approach to ensuring that De Beauvoir is a mentally healthy school. I am sure that you will have seen information in the news about children's mental health and we are happy that this training will support our staff to support all of our children and families.



Please find term dates for 2019—2020 in this edition of the newsletter. Did you know that there are only 195 school days in a year? For this reason I am afraid that holidays cannot be authorised during term time. Please plan your holidays around the dates provided.

We are looking forward to sharing pictures of World Book Day and Red Nose Day at:

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DeBeauvoirSch>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/debeauvoirprimary/>

Please follow us to see what is happening at school!

Best wishes,

Rebecca Mackenzie, Headteacher

## IMPORTANT DATES - SPRING 2 2019

2B's Sharing Assembly	Tuesday 5th March, 3:10pm
2D's Sharing Assembly	Tuesday 12th March, 3:10pm
World Book Day	Thursday 7th March
Red Nose Day	Friday 15th March
Y3's Sharing Assembly	Tuesday 19th March, 3:10pm
Y1's Sharing Assembly	Tuesday 26th March, 3:10pm
Parent / Carer Evenings	Wednesday 3rd / Thursday 4th April
End of Term	Friday 5th April, 2:00pm
Year 6 Easter Booster School	Monday 15th—Thursday 18th April
Start of Summer Term	Tuesday 23rd April

## London Fire Brigade

London Fire Brigade recently came to visit Year 2 and Year 5 to talk about fire safety. They have asked us to let you know about their offer of FREE home fire safety visits.

During a free home fire safety visit, London Fire Brigade staff will offer personal fire safety advice and will also fit FREE SMOKE ALARMS where needed. If you or someone you know would like a visit:

- Email [smokealarms@london-fire.gov.uk](mailto:smokealarms@london-fire.gov.uk)
- Text / SMS 44786 002 1319
- Call free on 0800 028 4428



## De Beauvoir BBC TV Appearance!

The BBC were at school recently, filming for a short segment which will be featured during Comic Relief! Their filming focused on the work that the charity *Power2 / Teens and Toddlers* have been doing at De Beauvoir, which has enabled children in our EYFS classes to be mentored by some amazing young people from Hackney New School.



## Term Dates 2019—2020

Autumn Term 2019	
Inset Days	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September
Term Starts for Children	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September
Half Term	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October – Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October
Inset Day	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October
Term Ends	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December

Spring Term 2020	
Inset Day	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January
Term Starts for Children	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January
Half Term	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February
Term Ends	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April

Summer Term 2020	
Term Starts for Children	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April
Bank Holiday	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May
Inset Day	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June
Term Ends	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July

## Year 2

Year 2 designed and made some amazing Earthquake proof houses during Design Technology lessons recently. This was as part of their Extreme Earth topic unit about Earthquakes!



## Edible Playground

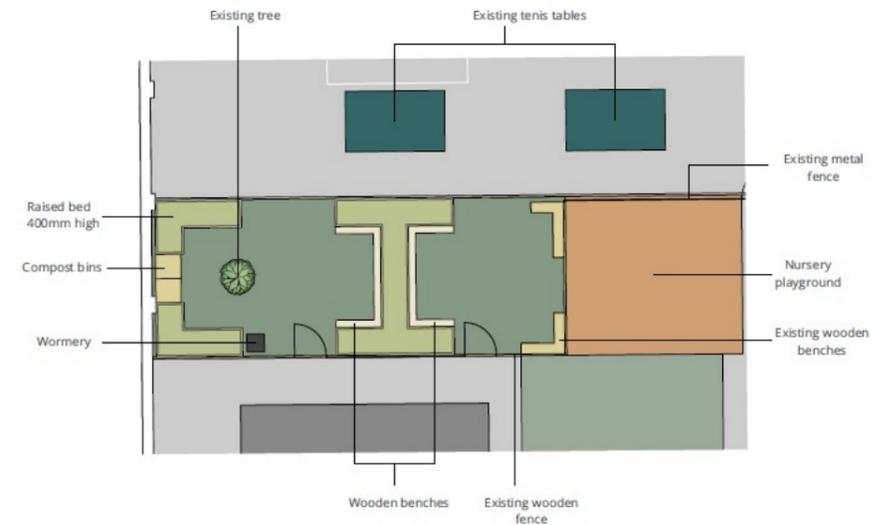
On the 4th of March, our Edible Playgrounds will start to be installed in the playground. These growing spaces have been funded by Edible Playgrounds and the GLA and will provide areas where children can grow fruit and vegetables. Learning will be integrated into our wider curriculum to develop children's knowledge about sowing, growing, harvesting, food preparation and nutrition!

### Location and Site description

A woodland garden will be developed on the grass area next to the nursery playground to maximise the use of this shady area, providing associate learning opportunities.

### Design

A series of raised beds placed across this site will define two mini rooms allowing different groups of pupils to use the space at the same time. Raised beds will be planted with a lush woodland planting scheme featuring plant species adapted to thrive in shady conditions. The raised bed placed in the centre will hold wooden benches to complement the existing ones providing seating for a larger group of pupils. Wooden compost bins and a wormery will define the composting area.



### Location and Site description

The site is within a built up area, surrounded by large buildings. An aspect assessment was carried out to identify the sunny and shady areas across the entire playground. After the assessment, we decided to locate the main growing area of the Edible Playground on the open space to the western side of the school, around the ball courts. This area receives enough sunlight to support food growing. A woodland garden will be developed on the shady grass area next to the nursery playground, where conditions are suitable for shade-loving plants. The ground is predominantly flat with limited access for large vehicles.

### Main objectives

- Bring nature closer to children.
- Green the overall space, enhancing and softening the look of the built forms.
- Create a space that is safe to use throughout the school day.
- Optimise the use of space for food growing and associated learning activities.

### Design

The layout of the raised beds intends to bring gentle greenery along the northern and eastern walls of the main playground, as well as, along the wooden fence on the western side, making the most of the sunny areas while softening the look of the space. Raised beds will hold seating units around the ball courts adding extra functionality to the overall design. The low boundary of the adjoining beds keeps views across the entire site but also provides a feeling of security and comfort. A whiteboard will be installed in the growing area to support outdoor lessons.



### Compost bins and wormery

A series of wooden compost bins will be installed to enable teachers to give lessons on how composting works and contributes to soil composition and plant nutrition. The wormery will enable children to investigate who lives in the soil and how to make the most of worm tea!



### Woodland planting scheme

A selection of woodland species will be planted in the raised beds to help create a natural woodland habitat that will increase biodiversity and attract wildlife.



### Raised beds

Beds will be made of oak sleepers, 400mm high, providing easy access to plants for all year groups.

### Plants

A range of herbs, vegetables and soft fruits will be planted in the beds.



### Wooden benches

Wooden benches will be installed along the front side of the raised beds or in between adjacent beds to provide extra seating.



### Greenhouse

A polycarbonate greenhouse will provide space for seeds and plugs to be sown and potted throughout the year.



### Bicycle wheel trellises

Bicycle wheels will be attached to oak posts creating vertical structures fixed onto the raised beds at the back. These trellises will act as support for growing climbers up the grey walls increasing the available growing space while softening the look of the playground.



### Gourd archway

An archway will be constructed from steel mesh and planted with gourds which can be used for art and music projects. As the gourds grow, they will climb over the structures creating a 'gourd archway'.



### Shed

A shed will be installed providing a place to securely store tools and equipment.



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