

Keresley Grange Garden News.....



Summer Term One.....

Following the Easter break, it was interesting to see the amount of growth that the seeds that have been planted over the last few months had made – as you will see from the photographs on the following pages, lots of growth has been made and after some extra work has been put in, the whole of the basic allotment space is just about set up now. Watch how this development continues.....

Broad Beans are making some strong growth.....

The first crop that we planted were our broad bean seeds which as you can see from the photograph below have made some super growth.....
Hopefully this growth continues to give us a big crop of broad beans.....



Peas are also making plenty of growth.....



Spinach looks good too.....



The broad beans, spinach
and peas have all been sown
from seed by the school
gardening club children.....

Gardening Club.....

Onions and garlic are also growing well too.....

Below you can see our winter onions that have established themselves.....



Herb garden is ready for more development now.....

Apple Mint.....



Here you can see our two mint varieties that are growing in pots, because mint can be very invasive... Also, you can see our lemon balm plant that is growing in the ground.....



Herb garden ready for more planting work.....

Bug Hotel build has started.....

It is always important that when you set up a garden space you focus on creating a balanced environment that is not only conducive to growing but also you need to consider encouraging and creating an environment that attracts beneficial insects.....

We are trying to create this environment by building a bug hotel which will provide a sheltered space and an environment where bugs can live.....

Below you can see the start of this bug hotel build.....



Bug Hotel Build.....

Bug Hotel build has started.....



Here you can see that we are filling in the gaps that are between the layers of pallets with all sorts of sticks, twigs, grass, bricks and stones, basically any natural materials that insects can use as shelter and to set up home.....

This is how it started off – a big empty space.....

This photograph was taken on Friday February 1st 2019



This is how the allotment space looks now.....



Pumpkin patch being dug out and prepared.....



Here you can see that we have started to prepare a pumpkin patch. We have taken the grass off the top, the ground has been dug over with the grass turned over and piled up to create a mound at one end.....

Peas are growing well.. Potatoes are looking good.....



Here you can see the rows of seed potatoes that we have planted out in the ground – now that they have rooted we will need to earth them up on the sides so that the potatoes growing under the ground are not exposed to any light because they will turn green which makes them inedible.

**Potatoes
ready to be
earthed up..**

Chocolate mint added to herb garden.....

We are continuing to add to our herb garden – the latest addition is chocolate mint which really has a strong peppermint taste to it – this is a real favourite.....



Broad beans in flower.....

Below you can see that our broad bean plants are starting to produce flowers which will then be followed by a crop of broad beans.....



Raised bed timber has arrived.....



Here you can see that the timber for the raised beds has been delivered.

All pre-cut to size, now we need to build the beds – a job that will really enhance the whole allotment space....

Follow the progress.....

Raised Bed set up underway.....

Below you can see that the timber has all been laid out around each of the growing beds, this is in readiness for the start of the raised bed building work.....

Once this work is completed, the school allotment area will have a far more professional look to it which will also set this space up for many years to come.....

From the basic set up we will also be able to build some of the growing beds deeper if we need to simply by adding extra layers to the sides of the raised bed.....



Follow the allotment progress through the summer when the children will hopefully be able to sample the fruits of their labour.....