



January 2024

Gardening at St Mark's

Hello January! It's certainly a cold one but that hasn't deterred us here in the gardens at school. The bright sunny days have been perfect for a little bit of bird watching, the year 6s were very excited to see Rose-ringed parakeets in the Indian Bean tree by the climbing frame.

This term all the children will have an opportunity to bird watch. They will be collecting information and counting the birds they see for the RSPB's Big Schools' Birdwatch Survey. If you want to join in with your children at home you can! On 24, 25 and 26th January you can spend one hour counting the birds you see in your garden or local park and then enter your data on the RSPB website rspb.org.uk - It is **the largest garden wildlife survey in the world!** You will find lots of resources on the RSPB website to help you.

In other gardening news, the peas, broad beans, broccoli and kale have been growing through the autumn and winter. Look out for harvests soon!

We have a beautiful cob oven in the Spiritual Garden which we hope to fire up soon so the children can cook bread sticks and pizza.

The children will soon be busy with seed sowing, starting with tomatoes, aubergines and chillies. Also look out for new signage in the garden that some of the older children have been working on.

Here's hoping for a beautiful Spring and Summer of growing!

Caroline