

## Vegetables at Olden Garden - update Summer 2023

'Little Explorers' - our mini garden club for children - continues to grow - in all senses! Three new local families have joined, bringing our regular numbers to seven adults and 12 children. We're currently working on soil improvement in the veg beds and thinking again about fox deterrents, as their digging is a problem for our veg growing.

As well as gardening, we also do related activities, including cooking and making preserves. Recently

we have made elderflower vinegar, using elderflowers picked in Finsbury Park and strawberry jam from strawberries picked at



Parkside Farm Pick Your Own - where we also picked courgettes, beetroot and a few raspberries. Karima, one of our new members, will teach us how to make vinegar from apples in the autumn; we also have seaside foraging outings planned for over the summer, as well as blackberry and wild plum collecting.



Members who saw the recent Financial Times piece on the decline of children in London will appreciate just how important it is that Olden Garden is a space that welcomes and supports children, especially those who do not have access to a garden, which is the case for seven of the children who are part of Little Explorers.

Lynne with Miranda, Kim, Trisha, Paula, Karima and Bea, plus children