

OLDEN COMMUNITY GARDEN

Little Explorers Vegetable Growing - update Autumn 2023

'Little Explorers' - our mini garden club for children - is growing and growing! Almost every week brings new members, as well as drop-in visitors, and we now welcome up to 20-25 children every week. Thanks to our member Bea, we now have a rota, so that different parents/carers organise the activities each week - everything from planting, seed gathering and art to making bird feeders.

Petra kindly led the children in a wonderful slate labelling session for the new butterfly garden.

We have planted pots of bulbs for everyone to take home and continue to cook food together regularly. In the greenhouse, greens continue to do well. We have planted garlic in three of the beds on the upper level - all well fox proofed!

A highlight was also our visit to Jolene, where head chef Izzie gave the children a kitchen tour, followed by a complimentary tasting. We had an amazing time and were able to give the chef herbs and salad leaves that we'd grown. Connor's basil and Bria's pea shoots were especially impressive.

We're now looking forward to the festive season. We celebrated Halloween with a group trick or treat, and are planning to make Christmas puddings together on stir up Sunday.

Little Explorers has become a hub for local children and families where we care for each other, for community and for nature.

Lynne with Bea, Miranda, Kim, Paula, Karima, Sophie, Alba and Larissa, plus children and visiting grandmas, not to mention the occasional dad...