



# Rye Community Primary School

"A Gateway to learning"



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back!

## Term 5 Learning

This term our topic is called: **Food and Farming!**

**The big idea:** Farming is the reason that civilisations were able to grow. No



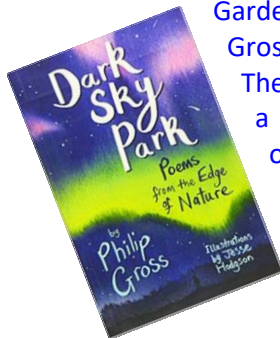
longer relying on just hunting and eating meat, farming allowed ancient people to develop villages, towns and cities. Together, we will explore and understand the importance of farming in every-day life as we ourselves prepare to grow our own food from the allotments.



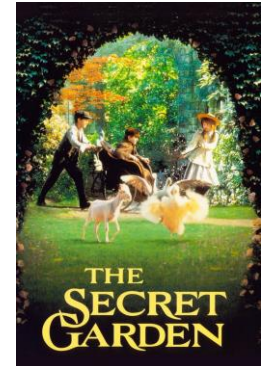
**The big questions:** why is farming important in our world today? How does farming help us to eat healthily?

### English

Alongside our topic theme, our reading and writing texts this term are 'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson Burnett, and 'Dark Sky Park' by Philip Gross (nature poetry collection).



The genres of writing that will be covered this term include a poem, a narrative inspired by the Secret Garden, and a persuasive piece of writing on the importance of sustainability.



### How you can help your child

- Make sure your child reads daily and discuss the stories in terms of reasons for characters' actions and reasons for the author's choices of vocabulary. Don't forget to record reading sessions in reading records.
- Discuss meanings of any new vocabulary your child comes across.
- Support with any English / Grammar and Maths homework.
- Test children on their weekly spellings.
- Practise times tables on Times Table Rock Stars.

### Mathematics

In our maths lessons we will be learning about statistics, equivalent fractions, co-ordinates and decimal fractions. Our maths meetings will be based on time, fractions and the four operations.

Dolphins, Marlin & Sharks.



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## Warmer weather

Now that it is becoming warmer, please ensure that your child brings a water bottle into school every day. They should also preferably have sun cream and a hat, particularly if we will be spending afternoons over in the allotments.

## PE

Year 5/6 will be completing two 45 minute lessons a week. Both lessons will be completed in the hall as our units this term are dance and games. All children must have their PE kit in school each week.

## Homework

Homework will be given out on a Friday and is expected to be in by the following Wednesday. It is important that homework is completed as this will help support the learning they have been doing in school. Homework will include Reading Eggs, Mathletics and Times Table Rock Stars. The children will also be given 10 spellings to learn each week which they will be tested on each Friday. Please support your child as they learn these.

**Termly Homework Project - Please choose from one of the following.**

1. Create a fact file about farming sustainably.
2. Create a poem about the Windrush Generation.
4. Write a persuasive piece on why we should farm sustainably.
5. Grow your own fruit and vegetables at home.
6. Make a flower arrangement using florist foam blocks and found foliage.
7. Attract birds to your garden by making them a delicious bird cake.
8. Find out food miles travelled by the ingredients of your evening meal.
9. Grow 'mystery' wildflower seeds at home.
10. Create a sensory trail! Find flowers or leaves with a fragrant scent, or plants with interesting textures.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us through Class Dojo. Thank you for your continuing support.

Miss Turton, Miss Brunton & Mr Thomas

allotment	vegetables	growth	garden
fruit	cultivate	plants	herbs
seeds	produce	flowers	sow
healthy	sustainability	biodegradable	harvest
climate	community	farming	organic

Dolphins, Marlin & Sharks.



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### Monthly allotment timetable

<b>January</b>	Prune fruit trees and harvest root vegetables, such as leeks and swedes.
<b>February</b>	Sprinkle fertiliser around the base of fruit trees, roses and other flowering shrubs.
<b>March</b>	Sow root and stem vegetables outdoors, covering with fleece, cloches or cold frames. Sow plants such as tomatoes, chillies and peppers indoors.
<b>April</b>	Sow herbs, salad leaves and fast-growing crops, such as radishes, in sunny planting beds outdoors.
<b>May</b>	Go on evening hunts to remove snails and slugs, especially during damp weather.
<b>June</b>	Water vegetables and fruits regularly, especially during dry, sunny weather.
<b>July</b>	Water crops regularly and remove garden pests from plants by rubbing or washing them off immediately. Feed indoor plants with fertiliser.
<b>August</b>	Harvest crops that are ready, such as broad beans, carrots, peas and tomatoes.
<b>September</b>	Pick unripe tomatoes and place them in a paper bag to ripen. Collect apples and wrap in newspaper. Store them in a cool dry place.
<b>October</b>	Continue to harvest crops and collect blackberries from hedgerows.
<b>November</b>	Support brussels sprouts with sturdy canes and pile earth around the stems.
<b>December</b>	Clear old crops and weeds from the allotment, dig over the soil and put any fallen leaves on a compost heap.

### Farming

When plants and animals are grown or reared on a large scale for people to eat, it is called farming. The food people buy from supermarkets is farmed all over the world. Farmers living in different countries work in different climates and landscapes so they adapt their farming practices to their local conditions. Because of this, the types of farming vary across the world.

### Farming in the UK

There are three main types of farming in the UK: arable, pastoral and mixed. Arable farms grow crops and cereals. Pastoral farms rear animals. Mixed farms grow crops and keep animals. The map below shows farming practices across the UK.



### Farming around the world

Farming across the world can take a range of forms, including subsistence, fair trade and intensive farming. Foods that are farmed in other countries include rice that is grown in China, salmon that are reared in Europe and tea leaves that are grown in Africa.

### Glossary

<b>disperse</b>	To scatter.
<b>cloche</b>	A translucent cover for protecting plants.
<b>fair trade</b>	A way of buying and selling produce to ensure farmers have good working conditions and get a fair price.
<b>fertilisation</b>	The process of pollen joining with an ovule, causing an ovule to become a seed.
<b>fertiliser</b>	A natural or man-made substance used on soil to make plants grow well.
<b>germination</b>	The process by which a seed starts to grow.
<b>harvest</b>	To gather crops.
<b>intensive farming</b>	A method of farming that produces a large amount of produce.
<b>pollen</b>	Tiny particles made by the anthers of a flower that fertilise the ovules of a different flower.
<b>produce</b>	Food such as fruit and vegetables that are grown or farmed.
<b>prune</b>	To cut off branches to remove dead wood and encourage growth.
<b>reproduction</b>	The process that produces offspring.
<b>seedling</b>	A young plant that is grown from a seed.
<b>shoot</b>	The first part of a plant to appear above the ground.
<b>sow</b>	To plant seeds.
<b>subsistence farming</b>	A method of farming where farmers grow enough food to feed their family.

## Allotment

### Definition

An allotment is a small piece of land used to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers.



### Plants

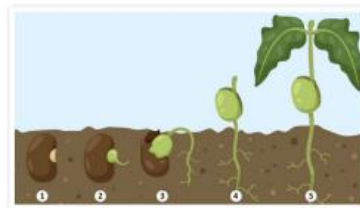
Plants provide living things with food, shelter, medicines, fuel and chemicals. Most importantly, plants supply the oxygen in the air that many living things need to breathe.

### Growing plants

Most plants grow from seeds into seedlings and then into adult plants. For this process to take place, specific conditions are required. Plants need the right amount of water, nutrients, air, light, warmth, space and time to grow healthily. If a plant does not have one or many of these requirements, its growth will be affected and it could die.

### Stages of plant growth

1. A seed remains inactive until the conditions are right for germination and growth.
2. If a seed has the space, water and warmth it requires, a root breaks out of the seed coat and grows downwards into the soil.
3. More roots develop and a green shoot appears. The shoot breaks open the seed coat and pushes upwards and out of the soil.
4. The shoot grows towards the light as the plant's roots absorb water and nutrients.
5. Over time, the plant develops and leaves appear.

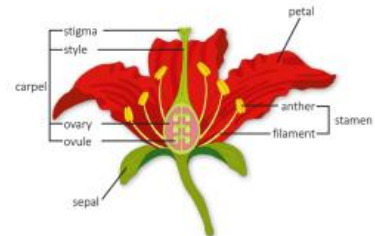


### Wildlife

Some animals play a vital role in plant reproduction and pest control. Insects help plants reproduce by moving pollen from one plant to another. Earthworms burrow through the soil, allowing air and water to reach the roots of plants. However, some animals damage plants. Cabbage white butterflies lay eggs that develop into caterpillars that eat crops, slugs eat the leaves of growing plants and moles burrow underground, disturbing roots.

### Parts of a flowering plant

Flowering plants come in different colours, shapes and sizes but they all have a similar structure. Most have a female part called a carpel and a male part called a stamen.



### Plant reproduction

Plants reproduce to make new plants. All flowering plants go through the following cycle to produce a new plant:

1. Brightly coloured or fragrant flowers attract insects.
2. Pollinating insects, birds, animals or the wind move pollen grains from the anther of one flower to the stigma of another. This is called pollination.
3. A pollen grain travels down the style to reach the ovary.
4. The pollen fertilises an egg cell called an ovule inside the ovary.
5. The ovule develops into a seed inside a fruit.
6. The seeds are dispersed.
7. When the seed lands on the ground and the conditions are right, a new plant grows.