

# Charlwood



Charlwood Village Primary School is a small rural school with plenty of space for children to run around in.

We have a playing field at the back of the school and a playground at the front.



These pictures show our school gardens and orchard.



Adjacent to the field we have our school Gardens, Orchard and Woodland Walk (which is still under construction!). Within the gardens we also have an enclosed pond area with a Bug Hotel. At the end of the summer term 2017 we had the fence moved and children now have access to the bug hotel and planned sensory garden.

# Village



This is our Bee and Butterfly garden Starting during the 2017-18 school year we aim to make this area into a sensory garden and move the plants into our cottage garden which is primarily for bees and butterflies already.

During the Spring and Summer of 2016 we added vegetable beds within the Orchard area. As so often happens with gardening our plans have changed again and we would like to make the orchard a peaceful area for children to read and relax at break times during the summer months. The vegetable beds now need to be moved to another area in the school grounds.



We aim to make all gardening and growing at the school child friendly and so we use raised planters where possible.



# Primary School

Once we have moved our vegetables beds we will be able to grow more with the children. The Gardening Club previously grew potatoes which were a huge success with both the parents and the children. We are planning to grow lots more potatoes this year.

We are signing up with Grow Your Own Potatoes scheme again this year and hope to encourage more families to grow their own produce once the children know how easy it is.





This is the front of our school during the summer of 2015. In October 2017 we held a Mufti Day and every child was asked to contribute a spring flower bulb. The response was amazing and we are hoping for a spectacular spring display.

Obviously this will need lots of help. As we go into the autumn half term holidays we still need help with planting the bulbs. Please help if you can.



Our children love to help with all aspects of gardening and watering is definitely a 'all hands on deck' experience at break times.

The more we grow the more watering needs to be done. Luckily with the recent building works we incorporated water butts along the sheds at the back of the playground which are proving to be very useful!

2015 was our most colourful year to date. We had planters, tubs and baskets and even a bath full of flowers.



Hanging baskets played a large part in our flower displays during 2015 as we had 35 around the school grounds.

We don't intend to repeat this number of hanging baskets but we do plan on having a very colourful display again this year.

During the autumn term of 2015 we had a new classroom built. As this closed off certain areas of the school we had to withdraw from gardening competitions.

Due to staff commitments and changes around the grounds we were also unable to compete during 2016-2017.

Since 2012 we have been entering gardening competitions – Horley in Spring, Horley in Bloom and South and South East in Bloom. We have had some good results of second place and a joint first in the Horley competitions and moved up from Silver to Silver Gilt in the SSEiB.

We have some lovely plans in place for our school gardens and grounds but, unfortunately, do not have the man-power to put them into action.

We need volunteers.

We are desperately hoping that there is somebody out there that no longer has a garden or would like to be able to garden more and would like to help in ours.

Do you have any time that you could spare to help us in our gardens?

Would you like to help us to be able to enter competitions again this year?

Please call us for more information and speak to Mrs Dodd or Mrs Whenham in school. Mrs Sandy Bowling is also on our Eco Committee should you catch her around the village.

Any help, no matter how small will always be greatly appreciated.

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