

January / February 2017

# Mustang Garden

Students have been busily preparing garden beds for spring planting. Weeding, turning the soil and adding compost. The sixth graders have been designing square foot gardens. They each have a 5x5 raised garden bed to map out and plant. Using graph paper, we have divided the beds into square foot parcels. After researching Texas growing seasons and determining the best plants for our region, the students selected the plants they plan to grow. They will be responsible for caring for the individual garden the remainder of the school year.

cool - cool  
warm - warm  
Michelle

|                                       |                                 |                |                 |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Swiss chard<br>4                      | celery<br>4                     | radishes<br>16 | potatoes<br>8   | carrots<br>16       |
| Beets<br>10                           | Mint<br>1<br>(Unconcrete plant) | Broccoli<br>3  | Fennel<br>4     | cabbage<br>1        |
| Lemon Balm<br>1<br>(Unconcrete plant) | Onions<br>4                     | Melons<br>2    | Sharp Peas<br>3 | Sweet Potatoes<br>4 |
| Kate<br>4                             | Peppers<br>2                    | Carrots<br>5   | okra<br>3       | strawberries<br>3   |
| Melons<br>3                           | Sharp Peas<br>2                 | Squash<br>3    | Potatoes<br>4   | Broccoli<br>3       |



## Spot It

There are some spring flowers poking their heads up out of the dirt. Come by and see if you can find them.



## Chicken News

We love taking care of our chickens !!!



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## Harvesting and Planting Cool Crops

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The younger students finished harvesting the last of our sweet potatoes. It was great fun! Like digging for buried treasure.



We planted some cool weather crops: Kale, Cabbage, Collards, Swiss chard, Green Beans, Potatoes, Onions, Carrots, Beets, Turnips, and Herbs.



## More Garden Beds



Work has begun on adding raised beds for a Pre-K garden. We plan to have everything ready for the children to beginning planting in the 1<sup>st</sup> warm growing season.

## Texas Growing Seasons

We have four growing seasons similar to a 12 month calendar. But the Texas growing seasons are based on the temperature.

**1<sup>st</sup> Warm Season**  
(Mar – Mid May)

**HOT Season**  
(Mid May – Sep)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Warm / Cool Season**  
(Late Sep – Nov)

**Cool / Cold Season**  
(Dec – Feb)