

We have good news to share with you!







The new raised beds are in place and all the new insect friendly pollinator seeds, bulbs and plants have been planted

We mentioned in the October newsletter that work had begun on replacing the raised bed pillars. With support from the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment with funding from Grundon Waste Management Limited we have been able to complete our **Wild Edges** project. The wooden pillars that made up the raised bed have been replaced with pillars made from recycled composite plastic. The insect friendly pollinator seeds, bulbs and plants have been planted. Ruth (our gardener) met with Roselle Chapman from Wild Oxfordshire who gave us some much welcomed advice on pollinator friendly plants following TOEs successful 'Bee Healthy' project at surgeries across Oxfordshire including at Marston and Summertown. We are so looking forward to seeing the beds develop and flower, with plants and flowers coming out from early spring right through to late autumn. If you'd like to know what species have been planted please contact <u>Hannah</u>. The garden would like to thank Ruth and Dan for their hard

work in getting this project finished.

You can see from the picture above that the sandpit has now been moved. There is just a bit of finishing up work to do round the edges. We can assure you it will be ready for our younger users to play in once we open again! We would like to thank Roger for making this sandpit move possible.

Funding from Tesco and Neighbourly

The garden was delighted to receive some grant funding from Tesco and Neighbourly which allowed us to support vulnerable groups to use the garden as a safe space during over the summer and then during Lockdown 2. The garden would like to thank Tesco and Neighbourly for their support. Nafeesa from Name It said "Being able to use the garden over the past few months has been a life line for a number of our young people. Having a safe outside space has allowed us to continue offering our valuable support services. We have undertaken surveys with families and young people who have also said that for families of young people with additional needs it's been absolute necessary respite and for the young people it has proven to be a safe platform for them to seek support, safety and freedom to breathe and speak openly".

Book the garden for a Christmas bubble space

Are you forming an exclusive "Christmas bubble", and are looking for something different to do?

We are super pleased to announce that we can take bookings for extended family bubbles over the festive period (23rd - 27th December 2020).

If you book the garden you can hire the pizza oven, have a small bonfire (you can buy kindling and logs from us), use the bread oven and use the cabin.

All bookings must adhere to government Christmas bubble guidance. If you'd like to book the garden, please contact <u>Hannah</u>.

Festive wishes

We have missed seeing you all in the garden, and look forward to hopefully a brighter 2021. Please be assured, as soon as we can, we will open the garden and hold events.

Festive wishes to you all.

Barracks Lane Community Garden Trustees