



The Ryde School

Pleasant Rise, Hatfield, Herts, AL9 5DR

01707 267333 | www.ryde.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Sue Thompson

26th April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are fortunate at The Ryde to have amazing range of different areas within the school grounds for supporting your child's learning and play. As a result of not being able to access the area behind Nursery during the building work we have an area of the school grounds that need some TLC and we are inviting parents and carers to come and help to transform the area behind Nursery back into an accessible additional learning area for all the pupils.

We are planning to establish a parents and carers working party for specific projects within the school grounds.

Our first working party this half term will be on **Friday 5th May, from 2.15-3.15 pm** and then on alternate Fridays, so the second session will be on Friday 19th May from 2.15-3.15pm.

Session plans:

- During the Spring storms of 2022 one of the large cherry trees fell over behind Nursery and this Spring we have had the willow tunnels and hedges pruned. So we have a lot of small branches and twigs from the cherry and willow to cut up and create dead hedges. Possibly more than one session.
- We have an existing mini river channel that needs to be re cut and lined for pupils to use as part of different areas of curriculum and there are several large logs which need to be re grouped into circles to provide reading places / sitting spaces for the children under the shade of the mature trees in the summer. Possibly more than one session.
- We will also be asking for parents and carers to assist in some weeding / cutting back on some of the raised beds on the playground / field boundary.

Achievements so far:

- Part of the area behind the Nursery has been seeded and the grass is becoming established
- Year 4 pupils are working on the new pond area for their Eco project this year



- Tree saplings have been planted by Year 5 and 6 along the hedge line in this area
- Year 6 will also be making a sensory flower bed for the Nursery children to be located in view of the large windows at the back of Nursery.

If you are able to help on both or one of those dates – please can you let the school office know. Please bring your own protective gloves / secateurs / loppers / pruning saws to help with the branches, we have trowels and forks, spades for use on the river channel and raised beds.

If anyone has access to a wood chipper, please contact the school office as this would enable us to chip some of the cherry wood for use on paths in the wild area.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Thompson', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Sue Thompson
Headteacher