

Fall 2018 Life Lab Garden Update from Instructor Sze-Wing Lau

It has been a wonderful autumn in the garden, watching the leaves change color and drop, making room for new growth and saying goodbye to flowers as we welcome the rain. We are grateful for all of our dedicated garden volunteers over the summer and into the school year. Thanks to you all, we have been able to grow and harvest pumpkins, beans, heirloom tomatoes, fall and summer squash, and apples. As winter approaches, our beds are being turned over to cool season crops such as lettuce, kale, broccoli, chard, and carrots, along with cover crop in the garden and the hillside orchard to replenish the soil.

Pacific School students have been working hard in the garden along with exploring and learning from this special space. Here's what we have been up to:

Preschool has been exploring their garden bed soil with digging tools and weeding through it to prepare for new strawberries and other plants, as well as learning who inhabits the garden through roly-poly, slug, and snail observations.

Kindergarten has been taste testing their way through the garden, from apples to kale to tomatoes and more. They have also been exploring the garden with the rest of their senses, through sensory scavenger hunts and green onion planting.

1st/2nd has been collecting and saving seed from our summer crops such as sunflowers and beans and storing them for next planting season, and observing our worm box along with keeping our worms happy by feeding them garden scraps. Passion fruit enthusiasts have also been making observations about the best time of year to harvest passionfruit and what stage they taste best in.

3rd/4th has been journaling and making weekly observations from a self chosen sit spot, sifting pounds of compost to nourish our garden beds, and harvesting lettuce, radishes and broccoli for Food Lab.

Spring 2019 Life Lab Garden Update from Instructor Sze-Wing Lau

Thank you for all of you who made it out to Grandfriends day! It is such a pleasure to enjoy the garden with you all and to share some of what the students have done in Life Lab this year.

In the midst of a cold spring and unpredictable weather patterns, the garden is full of flowers and getting ready for summer. Here is what our classes have been up to:

Kindergarten is patiently waiting for tomato seeds to sprout, tasting strawberries, and harvesting beautiful onions

1st/2nd has been busy sowing seeds like sugar snap peas and green beans, and turning over garden beds to plant for summer harvest

3rd/4th has been guarding the garden against weeds, harvesting an abundance of kale and lettuce, and improving soil health by breaking down cover crop