

OFE Growers Newsletter for 5-12-2022

This week we had a guest lecture on butterflies presented by Mrs McKinney. Mrs McKinney had a number of samples that were passed around for everyone to get some very valuable hands on experience. Judging from the class participation this week, which was outside in the Annex outdoor classroom, was a great success. Thank you Mrs. McKinney for an interesting and thoughtful presentation!

This week we also have continued to harvest the remaining 10-15-Y onions. These onions produced very well this year. There have been many large onions of the size of a baseball and some approaching that of a softball in size. And we harvested well over 240 pounds of 10-15-Y onions this year compared to 165 pounds last year. Do you remember why they are named 10-15-Y?

One last number, this year we have harvested to date 2200 pounds of vegetables from our gardens. That's over a ton of vegetables during this school year. By the time the summer is over we will have harvested approximately an additional 500 – 1000 pounds of produce which will go into preserves to support this program for another year, so thank you for all your help!

We are now in the STAAR test period and while the 5th grade will not be testing on Thursdays of the test period we will not be giving class instruction in the school. We will however get to meet outside the school building for the last two sessions (19th & 26th) to enjoy Harvest Fest. This will involve showing off what we've learned with stations of fun and activities to be explained more at the beginning each of the classes on each Thursday.

Let me say that it has been a real treat to work with you all this year. I am hoping you had a good time in the gardens and that you feel you learned some neat stuff, which incidentally will not become "old". Our environment has a great impact on how we feel each and every day and to be able to understand it and work with it to make our surroundings more pleasant and enjoyable is so much fun and brings joy to so many!

Thank you all for participating and remember a tomato plant in a pumpkin patch could be considered a WEED!