

This week we harvested onions, lettuce, collards, and sugar snap peas from the garden complex, each student got a couple of onions to take home. The next week we will not have outdoor gardening class due to STAAR testing. We, the volunteers will continue to monitor the gardens and harvest lettuce, sugar snap peas, spinach, kale, and collards as needed to keep the crops producing and the produce young and fresh. We had our first taste of tomatoes from the garden and they were really sweet. We should start to see the tomatoes needing harvesting in the coming weeks as long as the temperatures don't shut down the setting of fruit. Do you recall what the optimal temperatures are for tomatoes to produce? Night time temperatures optimally low to mid 70's and daytime temps below mid 90's, does that sound right???

The white potatoes are beginning to show a bit of yellow and the tops starting to lean over. It appears that the last two weeks of school will be just about right for harvesting the potatoes. That translates to harvesting potatoes on May 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

There will not be a presentation lesson these last two weeks so we will have a full hour to dig potatoes followed by a treat or two in celebration of a year well done. You all were really great gardeners and your enthusiasm made the time we spent together a whole lot of fun!

This Thursday, after gardening class the 5<sup>th</sup> grade of 2014, that's right now graduates of high school, came back to Oak Forest Elementary School to see their 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers and dig up the time capsule they buried in 2014. There was no doubt they all enjoyed visiting with each other, their teachers, and seeing what they had put in the time capsule!