

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Sunflower competition
- Make your own jam!
- See a student's perspective on gardening
- Learn how to stop childhood hunger
- Fertilize your mind with our crossword puzzle

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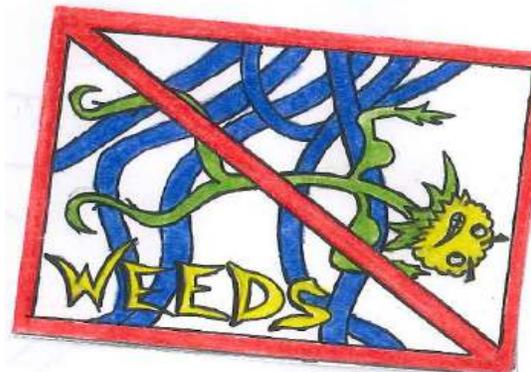
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The Wonders of Weeding

By James

On Mondays and Fridays, I go out to the garden with some of my classmates. Our job is to pull up pesky weeds. It's kind of hard work because the prickles on the sides of the leaves poke my flesh. It's important to wear a good pair of gloves. Sometimes my back hurts from all the



“Even though it's a grueling job, it's very important to pick the weeds!”

bending over. Even though it's a grueling job, it's very important to pick the weeds!

If you don't pick the weeds, they will suck up the fertilizer and water meant for the other plants. Weeds can also block out the sunlight and prevent the other plants from going through photosynthesis.

When you pick the weeds, be sure to get the roots. If you don't get the roots, they might strangle the other plants! In conclusion, even though weeding is hard work, we should still do it.

Sunflower Mania

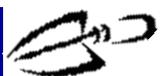
By KT

Last year, we planted giant sunflowers to compete in a competition for the biggest sunflower. The sunflower is judged by two categories; one for height, and the other for size of the face of the flower. It was a rough year because of the drought and extreme heat, but we watered and fed the sunflowers the best we could. We got some very big sunflowers that grew to be about 12 feet tall. The face of the flowers was about 7 inches

across. The stalk was about the size of my forearm. We were very excited to win the prize of either a iPad or a new dishwasher for our school. We strapped three of the biggest sunflowers to the roof of my mini-van. I got to the competition and was instantly hit with the realization that there were some serious contenders out there across. The winner of tallest sunflower was over 15 feet tall and had a flower face that was a stunning 13 inches.



The stalk was the size of my thigh! This year, we are taking this contest more seriously. We will feed the flowers more frequently and maybe water them a lot more too. Does anyone out there know of a magic potion to make our sunflowers even bigger?



Jammin' In June



Strawberry-rhubarb jam is for sale!
Only \$4 a jar!

By Tony

Jammin' with jars.

Cooking with rhubarb and strawberries, Sugar and stirring.

Stirring and

stirring.

Poured and

pressed.

Hot and sweet.

Yum!

Strawberry-Rhubarb Jam Recipe

Ingredients

- 4 ¼ c. diced rhubarb
- 2 (1.75 oz.) pck. of powdered fruit Pectin
- 4 ¼ c. sliced fresh strawberries
- 2 tbsp. lemon juice
- ½ tsp. butter (optional)
- 10 c. white sugar
- 12 half pint canning jars

Directions

1. Place rhubarb, strawberries, lemon juice, fruit pectin, and butter in a large pot over medium heat. Stir constantly, and add sugar, about 1 cup at a time, until sugar is dissolved and the juice

starts to simmer. Turn up heat to medium-high, bring the mixture to a full rolling boil, and cook and stir for 1 minute. Skim off any foam that forms

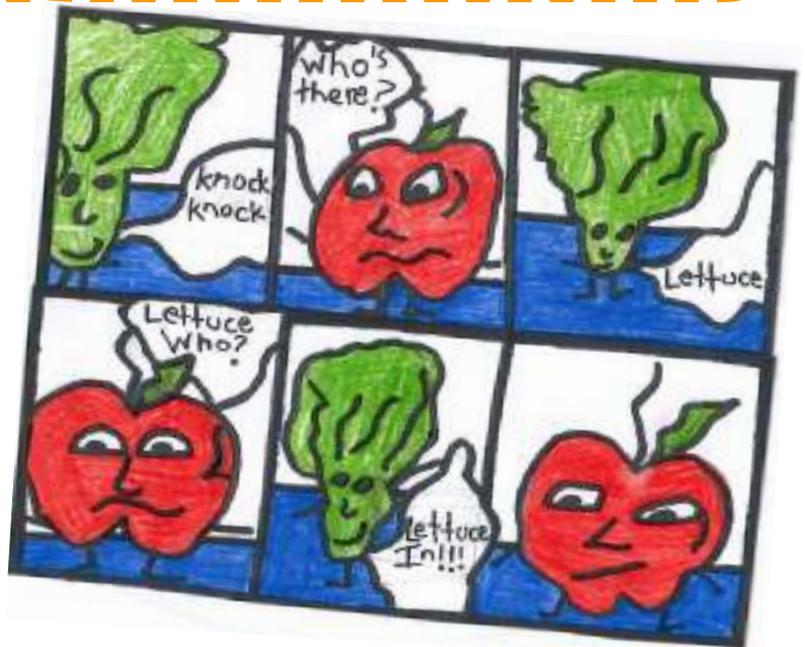
2. Sterilize the jars and lids in boiling water for at least 5 minutes. Fill the jars to within 1/4 inch of the top. Top with lids, and screw on rings

3. Place a rack in the bottom of a large stockpot and fill halfway with water. Bring to a boil, then carefully lower the jars into the pot. Pour more boiling water until the water level is at least 1 inch above the tops of the jars. Bring the water to a full boil, cover and process for 5 minutes.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtfully committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

-- Margaret Mead

Comics By Jakari



Gardening with Friends

By Michael

I like to help out in the garden.

Watering the plants is very important.

We have apple, cherry,

plum and pear trees.

The fruit will taste good.

I can't wait for the watermelons.

The flowers are growing fast.

They are very pretty

and they smell good.

The other day, I saw a frog.



We have an orchard with 14 fruit trees in it

Come check it out!

No Kid Hungry Campaign



The classes made Maple Bacon cupcakes, Puppy Chow, Snicker doodles, Oreo Truffles, Reese's peanut butter cup chocolate cupcakes, Turtle candy, Chocolate covered Rice Krispie treats, and Chocolate covered potato chips!!

We donated over \$500 to the Share Our Strength No Kid Hungry Campaign!

By Ms. Donna

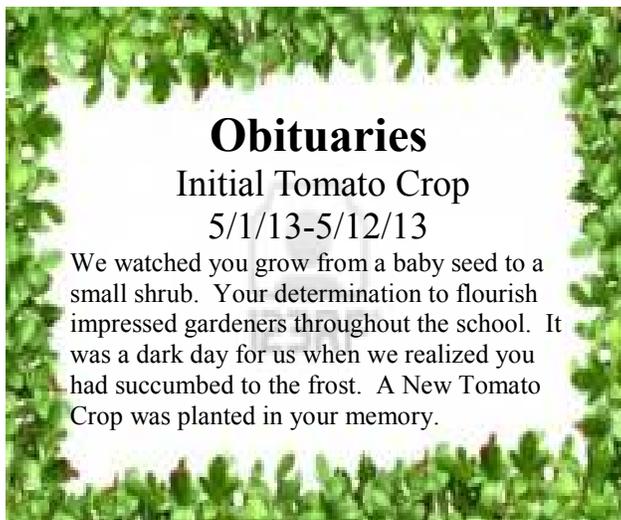
This year the Jen School held it's 3rd bake sale on Thursday, May 23rd; it was a big success! Our school bake sale made over \$500 for the Share Our Strengths No Kid Hungry Campaign. Each class and many staff members baked items for the bake sale and each class took turns helping to set-up, greet guests and sell the goodies, along with helping to clean up afterwards.

In the weeks leading up to the bake sale, lesson plans were geared toward the important issue of hunger in the United States. Did you know that 1 in 4 children do not know where their next meal is coming from? The Jen students are taught that they are helping these hungry children of American when they are participating by baking for the sale, helping to sell, and also buying goods with

"I felt sad to learn that many people aren't getting the food they need, but then I felt happy to know that I was a part of helping them get the nutritious food they need."
-Terrence, Jen School student

their own money from bake sale. Funds raised by nationwide Bake Sales for No Kid Hungry support Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry campaign, which is ending childhood hunger in this nation by ensuring all children get the healthy food they need, every day. By connecting kids in need with nutritious food and teaching their families how to cook healthy, affordable meals, the No Kid Hungry campaign surrounds children with healthy food where they live, learn and play.

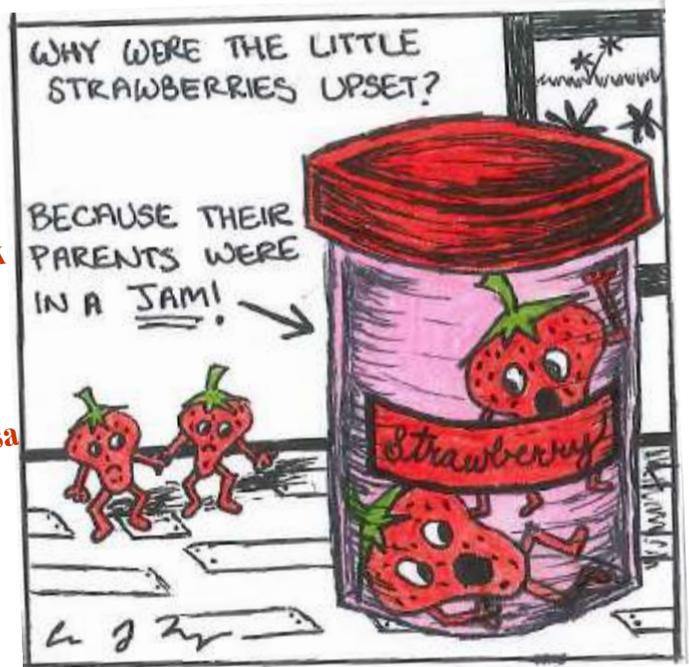
"When you are hungry, you can't think about anything else."
-Juana Mendez, age 17



Obituaries Initial Tomato Crop 5/1/13-5/12/13

We watched you grow from a baby seed to a small shrub. Your determination to flourish impressed gardeners throughout the school. It was a dark day for us when we realized you had succumbed to the frost. A New Tomato Crop was planted in your memory.

Artwork
by
Ms.
Clarissa





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Our organic garden was created in 2007 to help students with special needs learn about nutrition, science, and math. It helps them with basic life skills, develop their social skills, provide them with vocational training and employment opportunities, and instill a life-long love of gardening. Each spring, students shop for seeds, plants, and tools and turn over the soil to prepare it for planting. A large variety of vegetables, herbs, fruit, and flowers are planted annually in the 28 garden boxes the boys built themselves. The garden program has been very therapeutic for our special needs young men, helping to keep them calm, relaxed, and in control of their emotions and behaviors.

**At the Jen School,
it's all about
you!**

We're on the Web!
[www.maryvilleacademy.org/
subpages.asp?id=39&parentid=2](http://www.maryvilleacademy.org/subpages.asp?id=39&parentid=2)

**Find our garden online!
<http://edibleschoolyard.org/program/jen-school-garden>**



**Fertilize Your Brain!
Try our garden crossword**

Garden Terms

Across

2. A plant that can withstand frost exposure without means of protection.
4. A mixture of decaying, organic materials used for soil amending, fertilizing, and mulching
5. The process of cutting off leaves or branches within limits in order to remove dead, injured or diseased foliage or branches
6. The crossbreeding of two plants with varying characteristics
7. Plants that do not require pollen from another plant to produce fruit.
8. Any soil with a pH lower than 7
10. Latticework used to support climbing plants
11. Plants that live for multiple growing seasons.



12. A plant that completes its life cycle in one year.
13. To remove plants from one place and replant them in another.

Down

1. A fertilizer, pesticide, or plant food that is of animal or vegetable origin; plants grown without the use of synthetic chemicals
3. An elevated garden bed offering better drainage, aeration and warmer soil than a conventional bed.
5. Any substance used to control or kill pests such as insects, weeds, animals, or microbes; may be organic or synthetic.
6. The art and science of cultivating plants.
9. A plant that has just emerged from its seed with its first root, stem and leaves.