JOIN IN THE JOY OF OUR GARDEN

By Jo O’Carroll, mum of Rhiannon & Bevan Jones.

At the ‘Welcome to New Families BBQ’ earlier this year I was delighted to meet the friendly members of the Ashbury Community Garden Management committee, who told me of the many small ways a busy working Mum could help give something back to our great school community.

The delicious homemade green tomato relish was a definitely influenced my decision to fill in a Volunteer application for the garden.

As a complete beginner I was delighted to find there are many small activities the non-gardening new comer can do to support this beautiful asset to the school. Joining the chook feeding roster, donating food scraps (greens, bread etc. but NO onions please) and helping the Committee with this newsletter are just a few of the options available. Those with gardening experience are of course also most welcome.

Now that the garden is established, it is possible for children to join in safely on weekend and weekday working bees and other activities.

This is great news for working parents who would like to participate in the P&C alongside their children. My two love the garden, insisting we visit the chooks every time I visit the school. Their pride and pleasure in the garden is shared by so many Ashbury students.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Email us at ashburycommunitygarden@gmail.com to join our email list or send a note to school for ‘Ashbury Community Garden’.

Ashbury Public School and P&C Community Garden,
c/o Ashbury Public School, Trevenar Street, Ashbury NSW 2193 Telephone enquiries: 02 9798 4509
**UPDATE ON OUR CHOOKS**

Thanks to Sally Layson, our chooks are now super models as seen in the photographs on the information poster at the Coop, known as Cluckingham Palace.

Cluckingham Palace is currently the home to five different breeds of chickens.

- **Rhode Island Red** with rich dark brown feathers
- **Australorp** with black glossy feathers
- **Silver Laced Wyndacotte** with Black and white laced feathers
- **Plymouth Rock** with elaborate black and white barred feathers
- The other chickens, aka "the Girls" are **Isa Browns** with pale orange and white feathers.

Come down to the coup, read about the different breeds and see if you can spot the differences!

---

**HOW YOU CAN HELP**

**PURCHASE** our fresh, local, organic, in season produce at our Market Stall, held at Ashbury Public School each term.

**TEACH** children and teachers about our garden by volunteering an hour or so when you can. Don’t worry, we’ll train you first!

**DONATE** food scraps including vegetables (no onions), fruit and bread to feed to the chickens.

**GET BUSY** in the garden. There is always something you can do to help, such as weeding, watering or working bees. Feeding our chooks is a favourite for many families!

**CONTACT US** to find out more!

---

**IN SEASON**

**Vegetables**
- beetroot
- brussels sprouts
- broccoli
- cabbage, green and red
- carrots
- cauliflower
- celeriac
- jerusalem artichokes
- kohlrabi
- leeks
- mushrooms, cultivated, shiitake
- okra
- onions
- parsnips
- potatoes
- pumpkin
- silverbeet
- spinach
- swede
- sweet potatoes
- witlof
- wombok (aka Chinese cabbage, aka celery cabbage)

**Herbs, spices and aromatics**
- ginger
- horseradish
- nuts
- spring onions (aka green onions, aka shallots – not eschallots)
- turmeric

**Fruits, berries and nuts**
- grapefruit
- lemons, mandarins and oranges (blood, navel and Seville)
GARDEN EVENT SHARING THE HARVEST

The Harvest Day Street Party in March was a wonderful celebration of the Ashbury community spirit with music from the Ashbury Choir, food both from the garden and donated by volunteers.

The next event is Jazz in the Garden, which will be held on Saturday November 4 2012. Come along or find out how you can help out on the day and have as much fun as the folks in the photos!

MARKET STALLS

Our market stalls are a great opportunity to buy some delicious fresh organic produce and perhaps discover how you and your family could contribute to this wonderful ongoing project.

Watch out for news of our next Market Stall which will be held on a Friday morning from 8.30-9.30am in the garden.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

This project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust, the City of Canterbury through the Sustainable Schools Grant Scheme and Coles with Junior Landcare.

Ashbury Community Garden is not possible without the help of so many people in our school and community.

In coming issues of our newsletter, we will be highlighting some of the people who have helped make this project happen.

Who do you think deserves a round of applause? Email us your suggestion – and why – at ashburycommunitygarden@gmail.com.