

# Pupils have their voices heard at Deepdale Primary

Pupil voice is at the centre of Deepdale Community Primary School's Food for Life movement, with pupils canvassed on the playground with the help of a megaphone! Almost 100 pupils have now been interviewed about their school lunchtime experience, with the initiative led by Year Six teacher Shamila Patel.

At the same time, the school have been leading a Gardening Club which is growing red currants, strawberries, mint, onions, potatoes, carrots and peas as well as sweet peas, geraniums and sunflowers.

Pupils have enjoyed beautifying the space, including making decorative bird houses, painting pebbles and recording their activities in a growing diary. They have also learnt about composting, and have been collecting fruit scraps from KS1 snack time to use in their own compost bin.

The parent support group has often made use of the garden, supporting with gardening and craft activities and taking home fresh mint leaves to make hot tea. The Gardening Club especially enjoyed making red currant mocktails, producing a very tart drink! However no sweetener was required – pupils had watched the currants grow and ripen on the bushes so they were fully invested in tasting the juice.



At the end of summer term, the gardening club were invited to join a special 'Garden to Plate' event, in which the school-grown produce was used to make food.

With the generous help of six parents, mint grown in the school garden was used to make tabouleh, and potatoes and onions grown in the garden were chopped and made into samosas by pupils. All 90 pupils got to take home two hand-made samosas and a pot of tabouleh to enjoy at home with family.

