

Dear TYs from Scoil Mhuire,

Our names are Lucy Bell, Georgina Kemmy and Emma Strain, and we are inviting you to take part in a Zero Waste, Biodiversity, Food and Gardening Programme at the Rathcoffey Zero Waste Community Garden.

The programme will run for 10 weeks, we are looking for x 14 Transition Years from your school to take part, it will take place on Fridays, your work experience day, in the afternoon from 1pm-4pm (except for week 1-3, will be a morning sessions from 10am-1pm) at the Rathcoffey Zero Waste Community Garden, which you will have to find your own transport to the garden. Your teacher Ms. Dunne is supporting you in this programme and will organise all necessary paperwork for you to be involved.

Here is a flavour of what we are planning to do as part of the programme, we will be at the garden, so we will do some seasonal gardening tasks weekly, we are hoping to incorporate some cooking as the kitchen is currently being set up at the garden, and we will do some biodiversity, zero waste and living heritage themed activities too. We are also open to ideas and area you have an interest in, which we can explore during the programme.

Some possible activities:

- Seasonal Gardening activities - sowing seeds, digging beds, mulching plants
- Seasonal foraging & cooking– plant ID, making wild pestoes, elderflower cordial etc.
- Traditional skills – making herbal remedies, making butter, Irish crafts
- Cooking in the garden – making things from the harvest in the garden
- Biodiveristy - practical habitat making, recording to the NBDC, insect ID
- Intro to Forest school & bushcraft skills, fire making, wild cooking on the fire

Proposed Dates of Project:

1. Start date: Friday 26th March (Morning session)
2. Wed 31st March (Easter Week) (Morning session)
3. Friday 9th April (2nd week of Easter) (Morning session)
4. Friday 16th April (Afternoon session)
5. Friday 23rd April (Afternoon session)
6. Friday 30th April (Afternoon session)
7. Friday 7th May (Afternoon session)
8. Friday 14th May (Afternoon session)
9. Friday 21st May (Afternoon session)
10. Friday 28th May (Afternoon session)

Proposed Times: Afternoon sessions: 1- 4pm/ Morning sessions: 10-1pm

What to bring: Wear outdoor clothing, waterproof footwear like hiking boots or wellies, clothes you can do gardening work and get dirty in, bring raingear. I would suggest a snack and some refreshments.

Numbers: x 14 TY students