Mrs. Goetz made more use of the pumpkin patch when she brought classes out to sketch pumpkins and corn.

A Garden Classroom,
by Suzanne Spokus

The kindergarten and first grade classes visited the pumpkin patch in the courtyard. Mrs. Jones explained that these were the pumpkin seeds that the 1st graders planted when they were in kindergarten. We had 10 ready pumpkins of various sizes and colors. The kindergartners are excited to plant their seeds this spring and see their growth next year.

Mrs. Goetz made more use of the pumpkin patch when she brought classes out to sketch pumpkins and corn.

Growing for Fall and Winter

Third grade students worked on adding our own compost to the root view box that will go into the school. This winter, we’ll witness roots like carrots and beets growing underground.

Fifth grade planted peas this fall, but the weather got too cold for them to produce. We’ll try again in early spring for a bigger crop than last year.
**Time for Bed**

All grades helped to put the gardens “to bed.” We mulched, pruned, and covered the strawberry and lettuce beds with straw.

Fourth grade had fun chopping down and pulling out the Indian corn in the Pennsylvania garden.

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**Thank YOU... ...**

...to the teachers, parents, and the James Gettys garden club who helped make the school garden a success. From weeding and hauling to supervising and building a tool holder in the shed, thank you.

We’re making progress in creating a sustainable, fun, and educational outdoor classroom. Beth Page is working on a garden manual with information on plants, lessons, and projects for the next person who wants to take the job on.

There is a job for anyone who wants to help. You don’t have to know everything about plants, just to have a good attitude and enjoy working with students and being outside. We’ll figure it out together, and the students enjoy seeing a mom or dad along for the journey. Helpers also get to take home garden produce.

Please contact Beth Page if you, a grandparent, or anyone you know loves gardening, just wants to get involved, or sign up for the newsletter. No experience necessary!

hollerbeth@hotmail.com