

Little River School Garden

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Help the Eagles grow!



Garden Gazette

How Does Your Garden Grow? Beautifully!

Little River is so fortunate to have such wonderful and caring parents who have generously supported the new Little River School Gardens. On workdays many volunteers have helped us "from the ground up." There is a real sense of community with this new venture. One kindergarten parent, Mario DaSilva, volunteered to do anything that was needed. After mentioning using the rocks that we already had on campus, he generously volunteered his services to put together the stone beds. With the help of Michael Walsh, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Joyner, Karen LaFlamme and Dan Ivy, we moved all of the large stones from the area between the buildings to the garden area. The following day, many first and second graders moved the small rocks around the building. With the building being closed for the annual fall break the timing was perfect for Mario and his creative team of workers to construct the beautiful stonework into beds for our plants. Not only did he use the stones that we had on hand but he also generously donated many more along with the flagstone rocks for the path which leads out to the exquisite beds making them handicap accessible. For two days the stone layers worked in the hot



Front row: Mario DaSilva, Tiffany, and Janneth Jimenez
Back Row: Vince Caputo, Kim Hupman, Nancy Joyner, Karen LaFlamme, and Laura Johnson

sun to prepare the beds. The finished product is a work of art. Mrs. Philpot reported that the children were totally amazed as they unloaded the buses on the first morning after the break. She said that there were many "oooo's" and "ahhhh's" from the excited children.

Mario DaSilva was born in Portugal and is an accomplished artist who has a passion for painting landscapes on canvas. He learned the art of stonework from his father in Portugal. He uses his

talents as an artist to express himself artistically through hardscapes. The beauty of the stonework will be admired by children at Little River for years to come. Not only will his own child be able to learn in the garden for the next five years but hundreds of others will appreciate and utilize this magnificent gift.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Mario and his family for making Little River a great place to grow and learn.

For more information about materials at Cherokee Stone Center please call 770-213-4790. The company is located at 3819 Holly Springs Parkway in Holly Springs.

Working Hard for the Money

Third grader, Isabelle Keenum, decided over the fall break that she wanted to earn money to donate to the garden. She asked her mom, Stephanie Keenum, for suggestions on how she could earn some money. She was given a list of chores that she completed to make money. She then visited her grandparents and asked them if she could work to make a little extra money. She completed many chores and even turned down some money because she thought her grandmother was paying her too much! She donated \$12.00 of hard earned cash to the garden after the break. Thanks Isabelle for helping out on your week off from school!



Watch for upcoming flyers to come home with days to help out. Hope to see everyone soon! If you would like to sign up to be emailed the dates please contact:

lreschoolgardens@gmail.com