

Berrywood:

A School within a Garden

Welcome...

You are reading this so you are likely to be at least somewhat interested, or even invested, in the Market Days project at Berrywood. I first encountered the idea of 'markets' as a context for learning during the summer of 2006 in the tiny but idyllic setting of Itchen Abbas Primary. Over the next few years, I was fortunate enough to work with some amazing colleagues at Marnel Junior School in Basingstoke, where we had huge fun experimenting further. As engaging and positive as these ventures were, they weren't on a pedagogical par with what we now provide at Berrywood. They were, however, essential learning curves on a journey.

It is difficult to overstate the contribution that Matt Walker made to Berrywood Market Days in his role as Environmental Learning Leader. His vision for the development of the grounds as a 'school within a garden', his aesthetic knowhow and his artistic eye have each produced enduring legacies. I am sure if he were to visit now, he would be incredibly proud of how our new facilities and staffing structure have lifted the quality of products and produce to new heights and ultimately led to the exponential expansion of Market Days.

It is no exaggeration when I say I get goose bumps reflecting on the expertise, passion, and mindset of the current Market Days team. Perhaps more important is how their work deeply impacts so many children. I defy anyone not to be uplifted when attending a Berrywood market. If I could convey a single message to those, probably quite few in number, among the wider school community who remain indifferent to this multi-layered project, it is simply this: next time we have a market, please just stop to take a slightly longer look.

And so here it is, Mrs. Woods, three paragraphs covering nearly 20 years of professional endeavour... Sorry if it doesn't quite fit your magazine template!

Mr Reilly

What is the impact of Market Days?

'Market is perfect place to go if you are feeling overwhelmed. It's a calming space where you can chat, craft and cook.' Year 5

'At Market, you explore the woods, cook yummy food, blow bubbles and make new friends.' Year 2

'I like selling things at market; talking to customers makes me feel really proud.' Year 4

'I love growing vegetables, harvesting them when they are ready and cooking something delicious with them for Market.' Year 5

'In Market you discover new things, learn new skills, improve your knowledge about the world around us and have lots of fun!' Year 6

'Market is a great place to cool off, calm down and chill. I love cooking and being able to sell the things I've baked because I feel satisfied when it sells.' Year 6



Berrywood Market

An environmentally themed, half-termly market will be held on the courtyard for our Berrywood community. *Berrywood Market Days* produce and products are promoted through labelling and packaging (made by the children) which highlight aspects of the personalised learning narratives and environmental credentials behind the items being sold. Money raised from the sale of items will be re-invested to help cover costs and the expansion of the market days brand and opportunities.

BERRYWOOD MARKET DAYS



Monday 21st
October
3:00pm—3:30pm

SAVE THE DATE

What can you expect to see at the next Market?

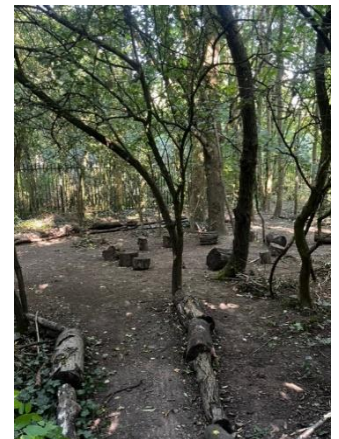
Wooden owls
Halloween spiders
Notebooks
Sausage rolls
Smores cakes
Cheese scones
Bubble Wands
Ladybirds and Bees game
Courgette and tomato chutney

The Market Team...

The Market Days team has expanded this year. We now have Mrs Anderson, Miss Bates, Mrs Douglas, Mrs Harfield and Mrs Reeves. Mrs Woods (Assistant head) oversees the Market Days curriculum, logistics and Market events whilst Miss Spencer (SENDCO) supports the team when writing specific targets and personalising each child's provision.

Behind the scenes...

The Market Days woodland classroom is beginning to take shape. The children have loved preparing the site and thinking about what they will need to enhance and support their learning.



Get Involved!

Are you a budding gardener or someone who enjoys tackling a new project? We are looking for volunteers to help us maintain and develop our school gardens.

Please contact Mrs Woods, via the school office, if you would like to join our school within a garden community.

We look forward to hearing from you

