

Buy Steele Grown

When planning your garden this summer please keep in mind that Steele students are managing an initiative to grow, market, and sell vegetable plants at the 2013 Home Tour Street Fair on May 11th from 10 - 4. Now approaching 480 plants, Room 208 is raising money for the garden and a charity of their choice while learning the basic concepts of running a small business.

Thank You

What a resounding and successful turnout for the First Spring Garden Preparation and Earth Day Celebration. We estimate over 50 adults and countless children showed up to help get ready for student plantings. The weeds have been gaining a stronger foothold over the last few years so our army of children and parents weeded, composted and turned all the beds. A small group of rogue, amateur plumbers installed pipe and valves so that we can put drippers in each bed to reduce water consumption and hopefully weeds as well. More hearty souls, including Mr. Greeley, took on the four beds closest to the green house, moving our strawberry plants to accommodate some new stock, reclaiming our raspberry bed for fresh bushes, and rejuvenating the butterfly beds. But the most ambitious of all trudged deep into the underbrush of Alameda to trim, rake and haul off countless bags of debris. And Steve tackled the fence mending alone.

Coach Welch entertained all willing children in a game of Capture the Ball. The Corner Store provided a wonderful buffet of sandwiches, salads and pasta, please visit them and say the Steele Garden sent you.

Most importantly, a special thanks to all the parents and children who participated, who went back and forth between practices, who had other school events and those that just got home and had to leave again on Monday. Your time and hard work will help us make the garden another part of our wonderful Steele community.

Garden News From April

As of this writing, April has continued down our strong start and many children are on their way to another wonderful summer growing their own food. Since the beginning of April we have:

- Engaged approximately 196 students in seeding and re-potting sessions to grow plants for the garden and to take home. The end of the month should get really busy as teachers sign up for seeding and planting classes in the garden.
- Room 104 came through strong, repotting ten flats of seedlings.
- We continued to harvest spinach grown over the winter in the greenhouse three more times for the cafeteria salad bar and in some hot lunches.
- Raised \$386 for the garden through the Flower Power promotion
- Remaining April activities include: re-potting of seedlings, direct seeding and transplanting of plants into the garden.

Please consider volunteer opportunities with the garden as Harvest Lead, After School Enrichment Lead or with our family summer watering program.

For more Steele Garden Information visit us at: <http://steele.dpsk12.org/enrichment/steelegarden/>