



Lots of Moving in May

May was full of many projects and activities throughout the farm. Plants in the greenhouse went to new homes, seeds and seedlings were planted in the production field, and more yummy, healthy tomatoes, cucumbers and lettuce were grown in aquaponics and hydroponics. Meanwhile, Paige and Jimmie the Goats relaxed.



Student Garden

Flowers, tomato and pepper plants were planted by students in their garden the last weeks of May. More seedlings and seeds will be planted in the first weeks of June. This space will be a hands-on, sensory-enriched experience for all. Colors, tastes, scents, textures, and sounds abound in this space. Come experience the garden!



Production Field Planting

Lots more plants were planted in May! Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, squash, melons, cabbage, broccoli and more! The first radishes in the high tunnel were harvested and are being served in the dining hall. Thank you to all the helping hands with planting of the potatoes.



Controlled Environment Area - Aquaponics and Hydroponics

- Fingerlings received in on March 6 were transferred from the quarantine tank to the main system.
- Giant pumpkin seeds were planted with students and will go in the field in early June
- 20 gallons of pickles made with greenhouse grown cucumbers
- Orange sweet snacking peppers setting flowers with fruits ripening in about 6 weeks. (A popular grab and go snack for students visiting the CEA greenhouse)
- CEA Lemons used by kitchen to make delicious mini lemon cheesecake tarts and lemon poppyseed muffins.



Greenhouse

Lots of plants moved in May from the greenhouse. The first week of May, all of our wholesale deliveries took place. Garden groups, high schools, landscapers and others received plants cared for in our production greenhouse. Thank you to all the students and staff who helped load the van and truck with the plants. Our Employee + Friends Plant sale was a huge success. Thank you to all who purchased plants. We appreciate you supporting the students.



New Chicks in the New Coop

A batch of new chicks have arrived to Homegrown Farms. After some in-class lessons, research, and a school wide vote, the students chose their favorite chickens to help raise and learn from. We now have 6 Americana Chicks, 6 Mystic Morans and 3 Buff Orpingtons. These chicks will be in the new chicken coop for a bit before they join the older Polish hens.



Flower Beds Planted and Mulched

Several classes helped plant and mulch 3 different flower beds on campus. Following directions for planting, working together as a team, being gentle with the plants and finishing a task all made for a wonderful hands-on project for our whole school community to enjoy and watch grow all summer.



Bees

Our two hives of bees are happy and “busy as bees” as they bring in pollen from the emerging flowers and tree blossoms around the farm and make that into honey.

In the photos below, the arrow is pointing to pollen being brought in. Others are brood and the queen. The queen is the larger, darker bee in the middle photo.



Helping Hands Tuesdays

The Day Rise Program comes to the school farm every Tuesday morning. They are always eager to help on the farm. Loading lots and lots of plants from the greenhouse onto the delivery truck was a huge help. Trimming the lavender plants outside was also another big project they tackled with enthusiasm. Thank you all.



Art and Succulents

Students created art on plant pots and chose a succulent to plant in the pot. These Art+Succulents were sold at the Greenhouse Plant Sale. A few pots remain for sale at the Farm Stand in the Learning Center.



Farm Experiences



PLEASE MIND THE SPEED LIMIT and STOP SIGN

Eyes on the Road

The area around the farm and the road is very active with students, staff and farm equipment.

Thank you.



Farm Staff

- Erika - Farm Director
- Alicia - Farm Operations Coordinator
- Liesl - Farm Operations Assistant
- Shana - Farm to School Educator
- David - Controlled Environment Agriculturist
- Matt - Production Field Manager
- Jeff - Grower Assistant

