



# Sacred Heart - Growing Outside

Wednesday 8th November 2023

Weather: Cloudy and cool

## Growing Outside

Children:

Year 2

### Bulbs



Today, in Growing Outside, we were thinking about **BULBS**. We looked at a few different kinds and tried to guess what some of them might grow into. The children were quick to tell me that they were onions. Although the bulbs did look a little like onions, as they were roughly the same shape and also had a papery skin covering them, they were actually Daffodils, Tulips and Paperwhites. We also had some tiny bulbs called Grape Hyacinths.

Some bulbs can be eaten, like onions and garlic. Although Daffodil bulbs look a little like onions, they

can't be eaten because they are poisonous and would make you very poorly. Bulbs are truly amazing. They are little packages filled with all the energy they'll need to grow stems, roots, leaves and flowers.



The children were able to tell me that the Paperwhite bulbs would need to be planted in soil and given water and sunshine to make them grow. We decided to be sneaky and trick the daffodil (Paperwhite) bulbs into thinking it is spring, so we each planted our own little pot to take home and keep inside where it is warm enough for the bulb to grow and start flowering around Christmas time.

The children carefully put compost into their pots, before placing their bulb on it. They had to be careful to put it the correct way up, with the shoot (pointy end) facing upwards and the roots towards the bottom. We talked about the shoot becoming the stem, which will hold the beautiful white flowers up. Afterwards, the children filled the rest of the pot with



compost until just the tip of the shoot was poking through. Now all the children need to do is make sure they keep it inside on a window ledge where they'll get sunshine. They'll also need to remember to water it when the compost feels dry. We can't wait the 6-8 weeks before they start to flower! They will look and smell so beautiful!

- \*Paperwhite bulbs take 30-40 days to bloom**
- \*Flowers last for two weeks**
- \*The bulbs are poisonous**
- \*They can grow up to 60cm tall**

The children made sure to label their pots to help them remember what they're growing. We also decided to give our bulbs a bit of a helping hand as they grow. Because they can grow quite tall, they can sometimes fall over. To stop this from happening, the children pushed twigs into the compost to form a ring around the bulbs to support them as the stems grow. The children thought that this looked a little like a mini forest!

Well done, everybody. Have fun looking after your bulbs at

home! Did you know that you can grow Paperwhite bulbs on stones sitting in water? They have everything they need inside them to do the rest. The children are a bit sceptical about this fact, so we have got one in a clear plastic cup in the classroom for the children to keep an eye on. They will need to check that the water level is always just below the bulb so that it doesn't rot.

One of the groups this afternoon helped to plant some Daffodil bulbs in the grass around one of the fruit trees outside the Year 5 and 6 classrooms. They thought they were being very naughty as I used a spade to lift the turf

and they quickly popped them in before standing on the turf to flatten it down again! I have lots of Spring bulbs that still need to be planted. Hopefully some of the other year groups can help finish planting them in the next couple of weeks so that we have lots of lovely colour to look forward to next year.



Mrs Grainger