

The Gardening Club got through an amazing amount of things today. Izzy and Benny were first up and they spent a few minutes sorting the large number of flower pots that had been dumped in the greenhouse. We then set about sowing some winter salad vegetables.

The seeds came from a boutique seed merchant called "Real Seeds" based in Wales (www.realseeds.co.uk). Not only do they have fantastic seeds, they take the trouble to talk with you about their seeds. They went to a lot of trouble to ensure the seeds arrived in plenty of time for the Monday planting.

So, each club members selected we planted the following:



1. **Pe Tsai** (Chinese Winter Cabbage Greens) – bit like Pak Choi.



2. **'Tsoi Sim'** (Japanese Flowering Shoot Leaf Green) – this should be ready to eat just as school is back in January.



3. **'Santoh'** Yellow Pak Choi from Japan – should be ready to eat in January.



4. **'Komatsuna'** (Japanese Kale). Small plants should be ready to eat in 30 days. If we grow them for 70 days they'll become big like the kale you get in the supermarket.



5. **Mizuna** From Japan. Ideal for a small garden and ready to harvest in a month and will continue to produce for a long time.



6. **Winter Marvel Butterhead Lettuce:** From France. It'll be half term before these are ready to harvest.



7. **'Green Wave'**. Mustard greens more for cooking than for. We'll have to experiment with these as they could three months to mature.

8. Dwarf Peas: **Hatif d'Annonay**. These are early peas so should be ready at the end of the Spring term and what's great about them is they don't need pea sticks for support.



Everyone then set to clean out the greenhouse. What a great job Rachel, Lily and friends did – sweeping, taking the rubbish to the bins, dusting. When they'd finished the greenhouse was a perfect home for all the new plants.

Next week's jobs are to wash all the flower pots, plant the beans in seed trays, prepare ladybird homes. We shall also list all the things a plant needs to grow well to make sure we are providing them with the best possible start in life.

30th November 2009