Mini Explorers

Take your time to explore the Walled Garden. We have a range of plants and trees growing here, which come from all around the world.

Some of our favourite nursery rhymes are about particular plants, or gardening in general. See if you can find the plants mentioned below, and have a go at the suggested activities:

1 Woodland bed

Our woodland area starts waking up again in the spring, with daffodils, *Leucojum* (the spring snowflake) and other plants. We look after our garden carefully so that there is always something beautiful for our visitors to enjoy, whatever the time of year. Have a go at singing the well-known nursery rhyme:

Mary Mary quite contrary,
How does your garden grow?
With silver bells and cockle shells
And pretty maids all in a row.

Use the laminated pictures you have been given to decorate the edge of our woodland bed (there should be enough for at least 2 shells and 2 bells per child). **Please stay on the grass to do this, please don't step on the soil.**

2 Scavenger hunting

Now it's time to explore what you find lying on the ground around the garden. Use these bowls or bags to collect interesting bits and pieces that might have fallen from the plants and trees. Please don't pick anything that's still growing.

When you have finished your scavenging, go back to the black pine tree to examine your treasures.

3 Black mulberry tree *(Morus nigra)*

If you have time, find the black mulberry tree nearby. Make a circle around it with the children, taking care not to walk on the snowdrops growing underneath it! Have a go at singing:

Here we go round the mulberry bush,
The mulberry bush, the mulberry bush.
Here we go round the mulberry bush,
On a cold and frosty morning.

The mulberry bush isn’t actually a bush at all, but a mulberry tree!