

# Kitchen Garden Programme

Earlier this year we applied for funding from the Blue Mountains Food Co-op to help us get our Kitchen Garden programme up and running. In the middle of June we found out we received \$100 from the Edible Garden Trail a partner of the Co-op to help.

To begin our venture, Perrine our resident gardening expert, and Kirsty encouraged the Bilby children to get in to the garden and do some weeding to get our garden beds ready for our Edible Garden. Throughout this experience the children worked together problem solving the best way to pull out weeds, making discoveries about our environment and investigating the role of worms and snails in our garden.



After the resources were gathered to start our Kitchen Garden, the children investigated the new vegetables and herbs. They looked closely at the vegetables discussing amongst themselves where they have seen or tasted them before. They drew pictures on stakes of their own interpretations of what the vegetables may look like, so we could place them in the garden to identify each one.



Heavy work was involved in transporting the supplies down to the garden beds, demonstrating spatial awareness, learning to avoid obstacles and making sure we are safe.



Children using their fine and gross motor skills whilst digging holes for the plants, manipulating the seedlings and pulling them apart. We also utilised maths in measuring the space needed for each seedling to thrive.



The children are becoming socially responsible and showing respect for their environment. Understanding the role we play in nature and compassion and perseverance nurturing the vegetables and patience watching them grow is a lesson to us all. We are looking forward to a harvest so we can cook nutritious yummy food at Preschool.



