



## ***'Beautiful Bellevue'***

### ***~Gardening Club Mission~***

To create an environment that is sustainable, welcoming and enjoyable for all Bellevue students and staff, where they can learn and play among trees and gardens. A club that enables students to become more caring and curious about the world around them, by taking care of, and showing respect for their environment.

Bellevue School believes in providing the very best possible teaching and learning environment for all students. Our school Mission Statement reads: 'Bellevue students are active learners, respectful of self and others, confident and prepared for a life of learning'. To help achieve this, we believe that our students need many different learning opportunities. Establishing a Gardening Club would support this belief by providing learning in a unique context helping our students become active, lifelong learners. Research also backs our beliefs that students involved in horticulture develop better interpersonal skills "Adolescents who participate in horticultural activities show improved interpersonal relationships compared with those who did not. Such improved attitudes carry through into adulthood" (Campbell et al., 1997; Skelly and Zajicek, 1998; Waliczek and Zajicek, 1999).

### **Purpose**

Beautiful Bellevue wishes to establish and maintain a sustainable environment to learn and grow in. The staff, students, parents and wider community will help by planting native trees to rejuvenate areas of fallen and cut trees. We wish to build a vegetable garden to grow and eat vegetables. Plant fruit trees to climb, play in, and enjoy the fruit to eat. Furthermore, it will teach vital life skills of sustainable living, growing your own food for a healthy lifestyle and diet, developing a lifelong passion for plants and the environment and finally providing life long memories of playing in a beautiful school environment.