



Echo Eternal Curriculum Garden



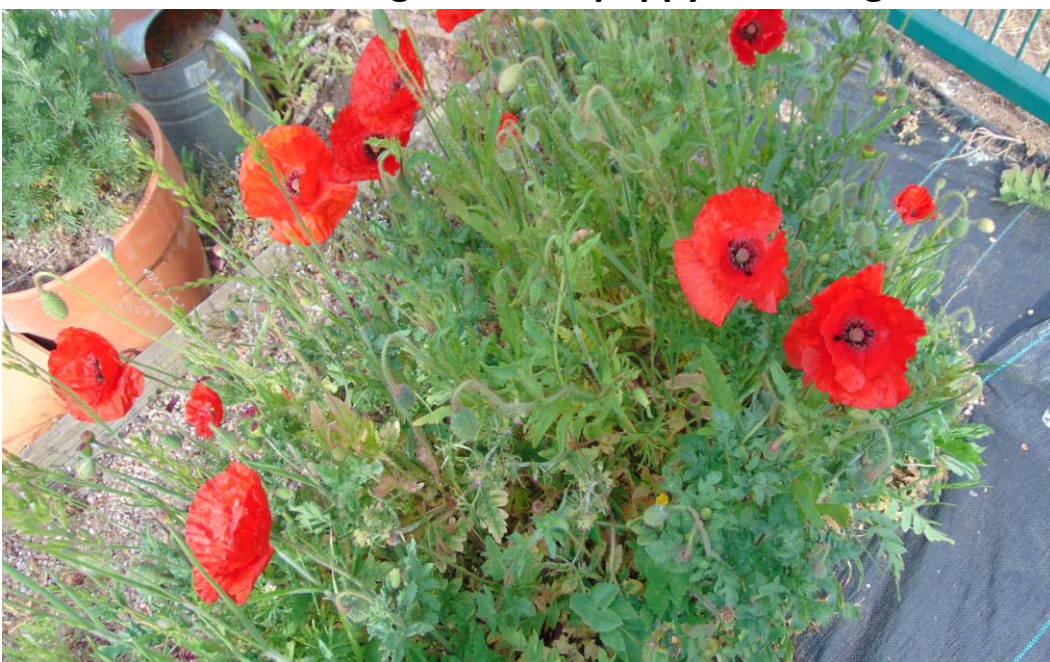
May seems very different this year.....

The month of May is usually a month especially weatherwise where you expect cooler temperatures mixed in with some rain. Well, so far, although it is cool early in the morning, the actual daytime temperatures are very warm with plenty of sunshine. Indeed, the ground looks more akin to what we usually see in a typical July – August period. We are already busy watering because the warm sunshine is drying out the ground very quickly.....

Weather reports are already indicating that there could be a really significant drought in the summer months with many of the lakes and reservoirs around the country already at dangerously low levels.....

Traditional colour.....

Here you can see some traditional red field poppies that have actually self – seeded into the gravel. The poppy on the right is a Victoria Cross poppy.



Aptly named rose – Golden Celebration.....

This is one of the roses that is growing in our dedicated rose garden.....



Another stunning flower.....

Following on from all of the spring flowering bulbs, there are plenty more examples of stunning flowers in various parts of the garden – we have poppies, roses, iris which you can see below and then at the very bottom of the page you can see some of the alliums that we have growing plus weigela.....



May is the month when lots of seeds germinate.....

Within the protection of the poly tunnel that it provides and over the last few weeks the increased heat from the warm sunshine, we have plenty of seeds that have germinated and are just about ready to be planted out.....

Indeed some seeds have germinated within a matter of days – that is great for growing although we now have lots of planting work ahead of us.....

Here you can see some of the plants that we have sown from seed.....



Amongst the plants here are dwarf French beans, courgettes, sweet corn, pumpkins and runner beans.....

**Italian Classic
Basil.....**



Lots of planting work...

Bees loving all of our field poppies.....



Borage looks stunning against the blue sky.....

Borage is a herb that has self – seeded into the surrounding gravel.....

Sometimes called Star Flower which you can see from the shape of the flower. Loved by the bees, plus the flowers can be used in cake decorating and the leaves although they have a furry texture taste like cucumber.....



VE DAY celebrated in the garden.....

With a red, white and blue planting theme, VE Day was celebrated in the garden with planting schemes, flags, bunting and boards all produced by the school Art department – a fitting way to commemorate the tremendous service and sacrifices that all of the military personnel made during the war.....



VE DAY 80

May 8th 2025

Peas are looking great.....

Below you can see our big pot of peas that are looking great – with plenty of watering, you can see the pods swelling up almost daily. Eaten fresh from the pod, there can be nothing that tastes fresher. Home grown food.....



More peas.....

Here you can see some more peas in another part of the allotment – garden which have plenty of flowers which will quickly turn to pea pods.....



Mint Tea anyone?

We have a wide selection of different herbs within the allotment – garden which have either culinary or medicinal properties.....



**Tashkent
Mint.....**



Weather has changed dramatically!

The last week of May is very much different to the start of the month, with the weather records appearing to indicate that this will be the driest spring for over 60 years, indeed the amount of watering that we have had to do in the first part of May is a worry, plus, the ground has been parched with lots of warm sunshine and no rain at all. Contrast this with the last week of May when we have had some heavy down pours and lots of showers – filling up our water butts is a blessing plus the trees and grass has needed the rain.....

Indeed, it is a bit disturbing to see that some of our apple trees look like they have not formed any small fruits yet despite being loaded with blossom.....

More gorgeous roses.....

Our dedicated rose garden is really producing some stunning flowers which also have some gorgeous fragrances too. The mix of sunshine and rain are a perfect combination for roses although the windy conditions are not helping...

Here you can see a climbing rose called the Generous Gardener.....



The Generous Gardener..

Another stunning rose.....



This is yet another beautiful rose that has some really stunning flowers.....

It is amazing how the rose forms a tight bud, the bud then swells up before it then opens out slowly to give such a stunning flower.....



BRING ME SUNSHINE

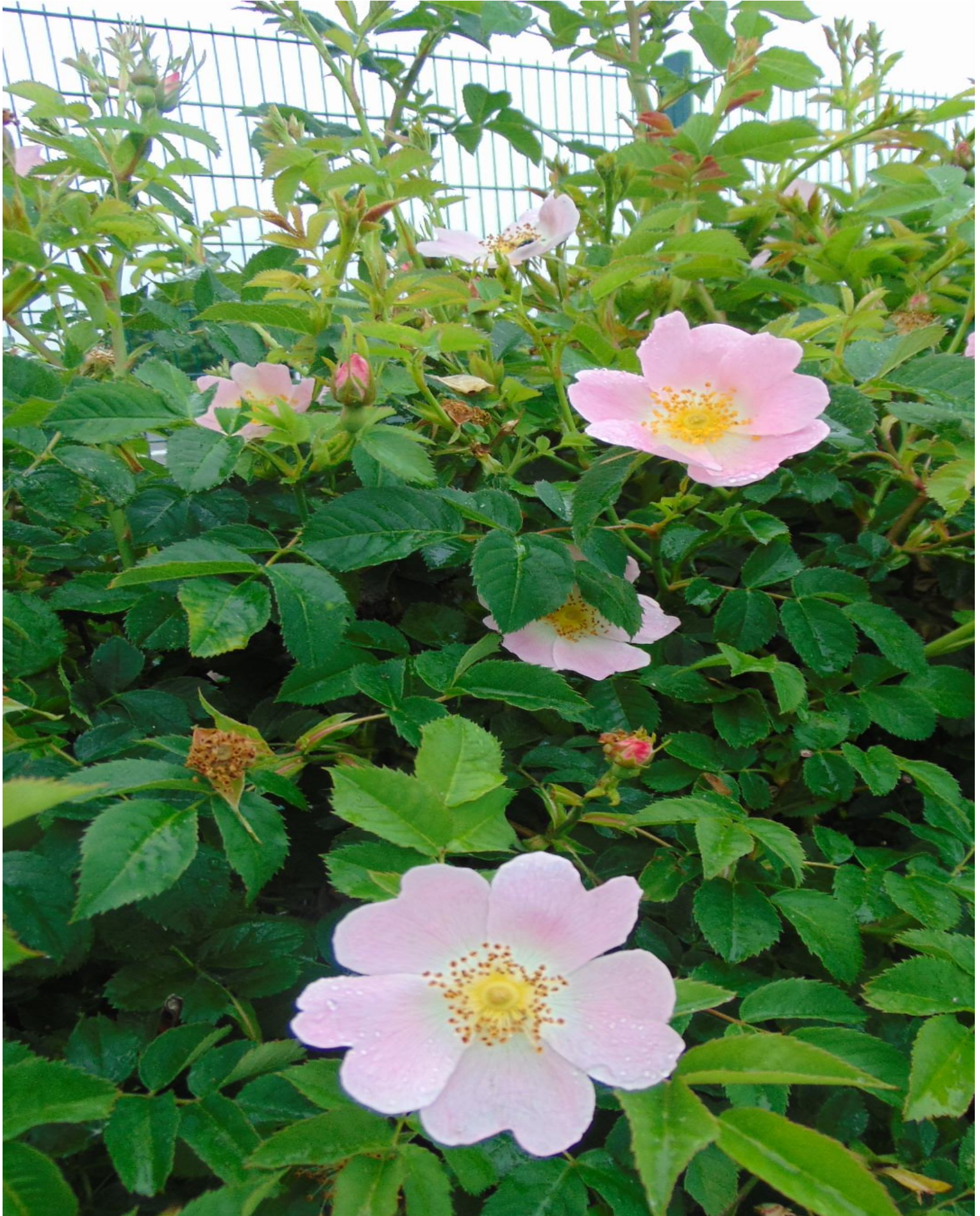
This rose is aptly named... A beautiful coloured rose with really great texture and a gorgeous fragrance.....

Ox – Eye Daisies.....



Wild Roses are looking great.....

Our wild roses which are part of our Woodland Trust fruiting hedge are in full flower at this moment – after flowering they produce plenty of bright orangey red rose hips that are packed full of Vitamin C.....



Erigeron karvinskianus are in full flower.....

These are plants that provide not only some great ground cover but also, they are great for the pollinators. They, readily self - seed and will cover big areas in a short space of time. Almost daisy like in appearance, they provide plenty of colour too with a mix of white, pink and yellow flowers.....



Broad Leaf Thyme.....

Amongst the vast variety of herbs that we have growing in different parts of the garden, there is one herb that is a little bit unusual which is Broad Leaf Thyme. It has the same aroma and is used in the same ways as regular thyme, the only subtle difference is that the leaves are just a bit bigger hence the plant name...



Bramley cooking apples are looking good.....

The fruit on this tree has formed unlike some of our younger trees, the older trees will have a deeper root system so the lack of rain will not affect these trees as much.....

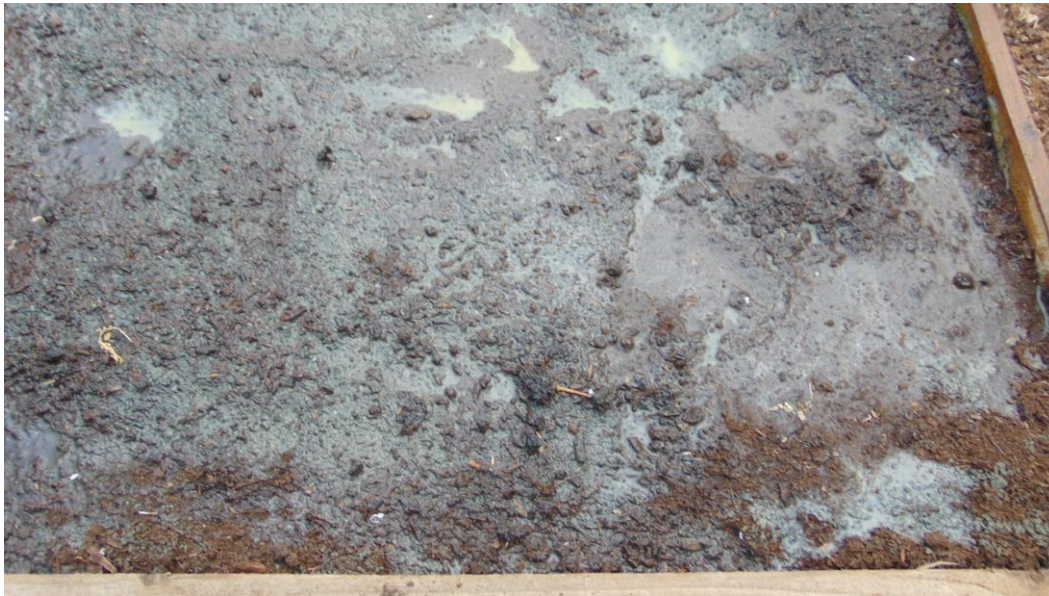


Poly tunnel raised beds being set – up.....



Here you can see that we have started to prepare the raised growing beds inside the poly tunnel.....

Soil preparation is all important no matter what you are trying to grow.....



What we have added to our raised beds is a fresh layer of compost plus REMIN Rock dust which is crushed volcanic rock dust from Scotland.....



The Remin Volcanic rock dust is full of minerals and trace elements.

Rock dust is full of NPK.

N = Nitrogen

P = Phosphorous

K = Potassium

All three of these nutrients are crucial for healthy plant development.....

So, the simple reason that we add the rock dust to our beds is that after you have grown anything in your beds, the nutrients need to be replenished each time, if you don't replace these nutrients then ultimately, your soil becomes very poor and then both your yield and your crop quality become poor.....

Blackcurrant crop looks like it will be huge!



More fruit has set.....

Another fruit tree that has set plenty of fruit is our appletini fruit tree. This is an apple tree that produces small almost golf ball sized apples.....

Here you can see the fruit that has set.....



Conference Pear tree has fruit too.....



Braeburn Apple.....



Gunnera Manicata.....

Gunnera Manicata or Brazilian rhubarb is a plant that produces some huge great leaves and can spread invasively if allowed so it needs to be kept in check – once established it really provides a spectacular sight with the size of the leaves. Our plant is only very small at the moment, so, we will keep it in check, but it will be fascinating to see the size of the leaves as the plant establishes itself and starts to push out some giant leaves.....

