

# WATCHING OUR GARDEN GROW

**St Anne's Year 4 children are in the process of creating their own nature reserve in a small plot of land outside their classroom.**

They have cleared rubbish, applied for funding from Alan Titchmarsh's Gardens for Schools and built bird boxes, bug boxes, planters and bird tables.

The class spent a day with Graham Maddocks from the St. Helens B&Q store and Clair Conley, the EAZ'S Business Links Co-ordinator, when they were given the chance to create a piece of art for their garden.

The next step is to involve parents and other friends of the school to help with the transformation. The garden will give the children an opportunity to examine in close detail the habitats of small creatures and will encourage wildlife onto the school grounds.

Year 4 will look after their outside space and invite other classes to enjoy the area. It will give the whole school a chance to see at first hand how nature evolves and the effect of the changing seasons.

The whole school will benefit from the garden, which will be admired for years to come. The children will have overall control in the garden and will be able to appreciate the work involved in its upkeep. It's a very exciting venture!