The school food garden is growing well. The electives have commenced and we have nine eager kids helping out. We have been topping up several of the garden beds with new soil and preparing for our crop rotation. This way the diseases have less chance of invading the crops. Last week we harvested some nice produce including eggplants, sweet corn, snow peas, rockmelons and sweet potato and of course bananas.

While on the subject of bananas, all of the banana plants were removed on Tuesday as part of the Banana Freckle outbreak. Our plants were perfectly healthy but they all had to go. We lost our entire crop - 175 banana plants in total!

Just remember if you have any bananas at home, they too have to be removed as part of the eradication process.

During lunch break, the group enjoyed a couple of beautiful rockmelons and sweet corn straight from the cob.

Our garden is totally pesticide and herbicide free, and totally organic. The result is that we lose a few plants to bugs, but we can live with that.

The birds raided the rockmelon crop and pecked holes in the remaining unripe rockmelons. We have trialled bird mesh to prevent them from getting into the plants but this has resulted in several birds and lizards being trapped in the mesh.

The chickens are going along well and Ms Stewart’s hatchlings are growing quickly and are now in the big chook pen. Ms Rummery’s class have hatched the latest eggs and we have several new chicks getting about.

Mr Mark donated a new shade structure so the kids have some decent shade to work and rest under.