

Nature Notes

January 9, 2020

A digital journal documenting the search for truth, beauty and goodness in God's lovely creation throughout the diocese of Fort Worth.

I notice. . .

The storksbill around the lake is blooming! These flowers are about as wide as a pencil eraser, and a beautiful pale lavender color. They surprised me, most online sources say the plant doesn't bloom until April. But then I found an online nature journal of a botanist in Colorado, who discovered the plant blooming in January too! It's a great article if you're inclined to read a little more about storksbill.

<http://khkeeler.blogspot.com/2015/03/plant-story-redstem-filaree-erodium.html>

Now that our flowers are blooming, we can look forward to the antics of storksbill seeds- which actually launch themselves away from the parent plants and bury themselves using changes in humidity. You can see a video of the seeds here:

<https://www.dogonews.com/2015/4/1/the-ingenious-storks-bill-seed-plants-itself>

Wouldn't it be fun to see these seeds in action?



Courtyard Adventures

So much new to see and enjoy in our courtyards! The raised beds are full of peas and oats, helping to prepare the soil for the EcoVikes' spring planting adventures.



Mary's Courtyard has new seating! We've seen lots of Eastern Phoebes and House Finches in this courtyard, so find a quiet time to relax on the benches and wait for the birds to appear.



The world is mud-luscious and puddle-wonderful.

-e.e. cummings

New Year, New Recycling Opportunity!

Did you know you can recycle markers, highlighters and dry-erase markers? Nolan students and teachers, we will have boxes around the school soon where you can drop off markers.

If you'd like to start this program at your school, Crayola makes it VERY easy. They even pay for shipping for the markers you collect. Check out this website for all the details, plus posters you can print to spread the word.

<https://www.crayola.com/colorcycle.aspx>

What a simple way to keep plastic out of landfills and oceans!! Huge thanks to Mrs. Keoughan for

discovering this opportunity, and to Mr. Garnett and the EcoVikes for making it happen at Nolan!!

Where to find Mrs. Breclaw next week

Nolan Outdoor Learning Headquarters

Mon- 9:30-2

In the office immediately to the left of the teacher boxes in room D22.

Tues-8:30-2

Wed- 8:30-1

Please come by anytime! Let's chat about how we can work outdoor learning into your lesson plans!

Thu-8:30-2

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