

BEE-HOLD... Madley Primary Get Bees!

On Friday 21st June 2024, Madley Primary School, who have been longing to learn more about bees, took delivery of their first colony of honey bees. It has created a real buzz around the school.

Teachers, who have shown a big passion for the outdoors, got together to arrange beekeeper training so that they can safely keep bees at school. With much delight, the Wye Valley Bee-keeping Association, have supported the school in their journey to being Bee-keepers. They could be successful honey makers within the time window of just a year! Their beekeeping mentor, Andrew, has been excited about helping the school and shared his own journey to becoming a beekeeper, "I was mesmerised by visiting a bee farm in Australia. The bees were mesmerising and the smells were amazing. I did not start beekeeping straight away but that memory stayed with me." The school are excited to be able to offer their pupils a similar experience and aim to inspire beekeepers of the future.



A hive fit for a queen.

On the day of delivery, Duncan, who is part of the Wye Valley Bee Keeping Association, brought in a swarm of bees, which have now been homed at the school's community garden. Duncan explained, "My favourite part about having bees, apart from the amazing yummy honey, is watching them visit the flowers in the garden." This is something the school pupils will now be able to enjoy.



The swarm before they were caught.

Bees, who are key pollinators, will teach the children about the life cycle, seasons and making honey. Mr Batstone commented, "I am thrilled that my school now have bees and I am looking forward to the day when the children can be involved more closely."

Hopefully, in the next couple of weeks, the bees will have settled and be calling Madley primary School home. The children will be pro bee keepers in no time!

Reported by Dexter.

Year 5 pupil at Madley Primary School