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Holy Family School, Lindfield. How does you Music Garden grow?

The “Sound of Music” can be heard coming from Holy Family School at Lindfield, but not from where you would normally expect to hear it.

The children at the school are making music in their new Music Garden.

A previously unused section of the playground has been turned into a music garden .The garden contains a number of all-weather musical instruments, especially designed and made for the Music Garden.

“The children are loving the music garden”, says Mrs Brigid McNally, the music teacher at Holy Family School. “We have about eight different tuned instruments the children can play, including a metallic glockenspiel, a wooden xylophone, a Slapperphone(made from PVC pipes), and some drums.”

The garden was made possible because of funding earmarked for some outdoor equipment. The school Principal, Mr Lou Dogao, was behind the idea of a Music Garden right from the start. “It’s a great addition to our playground” he said. “Not only does it let the children experiment with their creative side, it is a wonderful place to sit out from the hub bub of the main playground for some more gentle play. The music garden is a place where children are happily participating in Social Play.”

The school’s maintenance man, Mr Peter Sparke, has worked in conjunction with Mrs McNally to make the instruments. ” We got lots of ideas from the internet, and with Pete’s great carpentry skills, and a little bit of musical knowledge, I feel we have created something quite unique here at Holy Family School.” said Mrs McNally.

“This could easily be a project parents could do on a working bee, and if playground space is limited, the instruments could be spread around a playground

or a school in general, they don't necessarily have to be centralised. The instruments are actually quite inexpensive to make, and this project would be "doable" for any school community."

