

Carver's Environmental Enhancement: Interview with Ms. Sellem

By: Addison Grewe and Jolene Bagorda

Interviewer: When and why did you start Green Team?

Ms. Sellem: We created the Green Team last year to educate and spread awareness about environmental protection to students and adults. It started with the Green Club and a little garden that we had and little by little we started adding things to improve it like recycling or composting.

Interviewer: What has the Green Team accomplished and is hoping to accomplish?

Ms. Sellem: Carver is part of the Green Apple Schools where they work to improve the school environmentally to pass more levels and show that they can do more than they used to. Currently, Carver is partaking in the "Dreaming Green Challenge" where we share what we do around the school that is green. It's so cool because it isn't just in the garden or in the clubs, sometimes teachers include environmental parts in their lessons that we are able to share in the challenge.

Interviewer: What do you compost or recycle?

Ms. Sellem: Papers from the classroom can be recycled and even clean trays from the cafeteria. As for composting, food waste is best to be composted as it reduces the amount of garbage that ends up on landfills and can be naturally broken down. After it breaks down, it provides nutrients to other plants in the area that it surrounds. We started adding composting and recycling bins in the cafeteria in hopes that students will place their trash in the right bin so that we can reduce our waste.

Interviewer: Do you have any tips on gardening?

Ms. Sellem: I recommend keeping it simple. You don't need to have anything crazy or complicated because you are still going to get the same result. This was my first time gardening so I had to learn how to start and how to maintain it. If you start complicated at the very beginning, then you won't be able to maintain it.

Interviewer: What did the Green Team do for Earth Day?

Ms. Sellem: We did two things for Earth Day. We gave out different fruits at the piazza so that the students could enjoy something fresh and we also gave out plants that we had rooted from our garden to the students to take care of.

Interviewer: What days of the week does Green Team and Kids4Ocean meet?

Ms. Sellem: Green Team meets on Wednesdays and Kids4Ocean meets on Fridays.