

## PRESS RELEASE

### **“Sprout into Summer: Farmers Market” Blooms with Learning, Community, and Fun at Forrestdale Farm**

**Rumson, NJ – June 4, 2025** – The Forrestdale Farm came alive on Tuesday, June 3rd, as 7th and 8th grade students from the STEM Agriculture classes hosted the “Sprout into Summer: Farmers Market” event. A celebration of sustainable farming, hands-on learning, and community connection, the event welcomed 4th and 5th grade students as well as local residents for an afternoon of engaging activities and farm-fresh goods.

Guests were treated to guided tours of the farm, where they had the chance to meet the school’s friendly flock of hens and greet the newest farm residents—adorable ducklings. Students proudly showcased their knowledge, teaching visitors about innovative agricultural techniques including hugelkultur, hydroponics, and aquaponics.

A pop-up market offered a selection of fresh herbs, tomato plants, and organic, freshly laid eggs, all grown and harvested by the students. Visitors could also enjoy live music performed by student musicians, adding a lively soundtrack to the event.

A highlight of the day was the interactive lessons led by Drop the Beet, a consulting partner that brings dynamic, farm-to-school education to life. Their participation added another layer of excitement and hands-on learning for attendees of all ages.

The event would not have been possible without the tremendous support of the community. Special thanks go to the Rumson Environmental Commission and the Rumson Education Foundation for their involvement and encouragement of our STEM Agriculture program.

“We are incredibly proud of our students for creating such an educational, inspiring, and joyful event,” said Mrs. Walton, Stem Agriculture Teacher. “This day truly embodied the spirit of hands-on STEM learning and community engagement.”

The Forrestdale Farm initiative continues to grow as a model for experiential learning in sustainability and agriculture. “Sprout into Summer” was a clear example of how young minds can plant the seeds for a greener future.

