

Art & DT Curriculum Overview

All our subjects are taught through our 6 core values, with which we aim to develop children who are:

Curious: inquisitive and inquiring

Aspirational: striving to achieve

Responsible: understanding of their involvement in their education and the wider world

Empathetic: welcoming of others' opinions and valuing the feelings of others

Persevering: appreciative of the learning journey

Respectful: inclusive, local and global citizens

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
EYFS Expressive Arts & Design; opportunities will be present through continuous provision. Note: An enabling environment will provide children with: - opportunities to experiment with inspiring and accessible media and tools - the freedom to make a mess and mix materials - space to create individually and collaboratively - places for display/labelling or opportunities for taking work home - opportunities to make choices - support to develop mastery in a range of skills, techniques and safety rules - opportunities to talk about and evaluate their own achievements.	Throughout the year, children will have the opportunity to explore the works of various artists; these <i>might</i> include: Paul Klee Joan Miro Jasper Johns Piet Mondrian Kandinsky Children will use these artists' works as inspiration to create a range of artworks using various drawing, painting and collage skills. 					

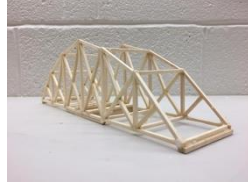
Year 1	Who Are We, Really?	How Did We Get Here?	How Can We Tell Our Stories?	How Does THAT Happen?	How Do We Live Together?	How Can We Care For Our Planet?
						
	As part of this half term's IB inquiry, children will explore how they can show their uniqueness through art. They will use mirrors to look closely at their own faces and practise drawing their features. Inspired by Pablo Picasso's bold and playful portraits, children will learn about colour mixing and explore how different colours can show different feelings. They will then create their own Picasso-style self-portraits to celebrate what makes them special.	As part of this half term's IB inquiry, children will explore important settings from historical stories like the Gunpowder Plot and the Nativity. They will look at images of the Houses of Parliament, stables, and other buildings from the past, comparing them to buildings in their own community. Using junk modelling, cardboard and other materials, children will design and build their own models of key story settings – such as Big Ben. They will sketch simple plans, choose materials for a purpose, and use tools safely to cut, join, and construct.	As part of this half term's IB inquiry, children will explore how puppets can bring stories to life. They will watch puppet shows, explore different types of puppets, and learn how shadow puppets have been used around the world. Inspired by the legend of Nian and the Lunar New Year, children will design and make two types of puppets: simple shadow puppets and sewn hand puppets using felt and running stitch. They will then use their puppets to retell the Legend of Nian through performance and play.	As part of this half term's IB inquiry, children will learn how to draw and sculpt animals by looking closely at their shapes, features, and textures. They will practise sketching from observation and explore different ways in which artists have depicted animals. They will look at the works of Laurel Burch, Andy Warhol and Heather Galler and create their own animal drawing replicating their styles using a range of materials including oil pasters. To end the inquiry, children will, use clay to sculpt their own colourful animal models, learning how to shape, join, and add detail. The unit encourages creativity, careful observation, and confidence in working with new materials.	As part of this half term's IB inquiry, children will explore collage as a way to show dramatic change and will look at the works of various collage artists such as Henri Matisse and Megan Coyle. They will experiment with layering, tearing, cutting, and arranging materials such as tissue paper, card, and fabric to create powerful scenes. Children will make two contrasting collages: one showing the Great Fire of London and one showing how the city was rebuilt afterwards. Through this creative process, they will develop their fine motor skills and artistic confidence while reflecting on how communities change and grow.	As part of this half term's IB inquiry, children will explore how humans use the natural world to grow, eat, and create! They will begin by looking at seasonal fruits and vegetables grown in the allotment and explore the idea of <i>food as art</i> through the imaginative portraits of Giuseppe Arcimboldo. Using a mix of drawing, collage, and food printing techniques, children will create their own <i>food faces</i>. Alongside this, children will harvest ingredients from the school allotment and prepare a simple salad. They will learn basic food hygiene, chopping skills, and how to present their salad thoughtfully on a plate!

Year 2	Who Are We, Really?	How Did We Get Here?	How Can We Tell Our Stories?	How Does THAT Happen?	How Do We Live Together?	How Can We Care For Our Planet?
	 As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how personal choices shape health, wellbeing, and identity through three mini creative projects. They will design and create a healthy lifestyle collage poster, plan and prepare a balanced snack, and sew a stitched heart plushie to reflect on emotional wellbeing. Through art, cooking, and textiles, children will express ideas about how to care for themselves and others.	 As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how explorers from the past and present have helped people understand the world, using art and design to express ideas and solve problems. They will study Peter Thorpe's rocket paintings, creating bold, abstract space-themed artwork inspired by shape and colour. In DT, children will apply their understanding of materials by designing and building a boat that can float, testing and evaluating how well it performs, and reflecting on how real-life explorers relied on well-designed vessels for survival.	 As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how visual artists like Yayoi Kusama use pattern, shape, and colour to share how they see the world. Children will experiment with dot painting using repeated motifs to express emotions and ideas. After exploring Kusama's sculptural work, they will design and create their own 3D flower sculptures, using wire and plaster bandage to build a stable structure and paper clay to form the petals. Children will then paint their sculptures in Kusama's signature bold colours and dot patterns to reflect their own story or perspective.	 As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how art can help us remember extinct animals and celebrate endangered species, inspiring people to care for the natural world. They will study the colourful, expressive style of Dean Russo, learning how to use line, pattern, and bold colour to capture the personality and significance of an animal. Children will create a mixed-media portrait of an extinct or endangered species, combining drawing, painting, and personal messages to raise awareness and spark empathy. Their final pieces will reflect on the responsibility we have to protect living things and imagine a better future for wildlife.	 As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how leaders shape the places we live and how important buildings reflect identity, power, and community. Inspired by the founding of King's College, Cambridge, children will learn about local landmarks and their historical significance. They will then study the colourful, animated style of James Rizzi, using bold lines, pattern, and exaggerated expression to create their own cityscape featuring real and imagined landmarks. Their final piece will be a joyful celebration of place, showing how the choices of past leaders continue to shape the spaces we know today.	 As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how humans and animals share limited resources and how art can be used to raise awareness about environmental issues. Inspired by Mexican Amate bark paintings, children will study how traditional artists use natural forms, symmetry, and bright colours to tell stories about people and nature. They will design and create their own Amate-style artwork on faux bark paper, using paint and fine brushwork to represent animals, plants, and habitats threatened by deforestation. Through their final pieces, children will reflect on how creative expression can inspire responsibility and care for the natural world.

Year 3	Who Are We, Really?	How Did We Get Here?	How Can We Tell Our Stories?	How Does THAT Happen?	How Do We Live Together?	How Can We Care For Our Planet?
						
	As part of this half term's IB inquiry, children will begin by looking at the The Altamira Cave Paintings in Spain and the Chauvet Cave in France , discussing what we can learn about prehistoric peoples from these; they will then have a go at creating their own cave art using charcoal and soft pastels.	As part of this half term's IB inquiry, children will explore the role of pottery in early human settlements, with a focus on Bell Beaker Pottery , a more decorative style of pottery found in Bronze Age Britain. Throughout the unit, children will work on various skills, including rolling coils, using slip, making a pinch pot and joining clay. They will also experiment with imprinting a range of natural materials onto slabs of clay in preparation for designing their Bell Beaker-inspired pot.	As part of this half term's IB inquiry, children will explore how artists use light in still life artworks to create mood, focus, and depth. They will begin by looking at examples of still life art, noticing how light and shadow are used to highlight objects and create atmosphere. Children will then practise showing light in their own drawings using basic shading and highlighting techniques. Next, they will arrange simple still life scenes using classroom objects, thinking carefully about light direction and object placement. They will sketch these arrangements, applying what they've learnt.	Prop making As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore representations of volcanoes in art including Nick Rowland Volcano and the works of Margaret Godfrey . They will learn a range of techniques inspired by these artists and will create their own volcano artwork.	As part of this half term's IB inquiry, children will learn about the climate and geographical landscape of ancient Rome and how these influenced daily life, including clothing and footwear. They will explore how Roman sandals were designed to suit the warm Mediterranean climate and the materials that were available at the time. Children will then design and create their own Roman-inspired sandals using natural and recycled materials, thinking carefully about structure, durability and purpose. As part of their Forest School experience, children will also follow a recipe from ancient Rome to make bread over the fire.	In this enquiry, children will explore how art can be used to celebrate the natural world and raise awareness of environmental issues. They will focus on threats to the Great Barrier Reef and use Melanie Hava's 'A Reef Wonderland' as inspiration to create their own Reef Paintings. Throughout the unit, children will learn about 'tints' and will use tempera paint to create a background with various shades of blue (in a gradient). They will then learn how to use oil pastels and paint pens and will use these to make extra elements and add details to their paintings.
Year 4	Who Are We, Really?	How Did We Get Here?	How Can We Tell Our Stories?	How Does THAT Happen?	How Do We Live Together?	How Can We Care For Our Planet?

						
	As part of this half term's IB inquiry, children will explore migration and the refugee crisis through illustration, discussing how we can "read" pictures and communicate through drawing and mark-making. <u>Refugee Journeys</u> Taking inspiration from illustrations by Ghaith Abdul-Ahad, Kate Evans and David Foldvari children will work with pencils, pencil crayon & fineliner to create individual parts of a myriorama of a journey. <u>Refugee Identity</u> Taking inspiration from the work of Olivier Kugler children will work with words and pictures to create their own portrait of a refugee. <u>Refugee emotions</u> Taking inspiration from illustrations by David Foldvari, Asia Alfasi and Kate Evans children will think about the different emotions refugees experience and work with charcoal and chalk.	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how Anglo-Saxon communities prepared and used food, considering how recipes and cooking methods reflect daily life and culture. Children will investigate traditional Anglo-Saxon ingredients and how food was sourced, preserved, and cooked. They will design and follow simple recipes inspired by Anglo-Saxon cooking, learning key DT skills such as measuring, combining, and evaluating ingredients. As part of the process, children will reflect on how food connects to identity, survival, and seasonal rhythms in the past and today.	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how symbols and patterns were used in both Anglo-Saxon and early Christian art to express beliefs and identity. Children will begin by investigating Anglo-Saxon motifs, such as interlacing patterns, animal forms, and decorative crosses, creating their own symbolic designs. They will then explore the transition to Christian art in Britain, examining stained glass windows and religious symbols, and reflecting on similarities and changes in visual style. Throughout the unit, children will experiment with drawing, colour blocking, and mixed-media techniques to represent meaning through symbolism.	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how water has been represented in Japanese art, investigating how artists use brushwork, line, and movement to express natural forces. Children will study Hokusai's The Great Wave and the ukiyo-e tradition, experimenting with block print techniques. They will also explore calligraphy and ink wash painting to express their own ideas of nature and water.	Production Prep As part of this half term's inquiry, children will investigate how Vikings used materials, images, and runes to communicate identity and meaning. Children will explore Viking textiles and clothing, designing and making their own Viking-style pouch using leather, hessian, or flax. They will learn about runes and Norse symbolism, creating foil tile designs and bookmark messages using Viking iconography. They will also create viking ship collages.	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how people have used textiles to tell historical stories, focusing on the Bayeux Tapestry as a visual record of the Norman conquest. Children will examine the techniques used in the tapestry and experiment with basic stitching, applique, or printing to retell moments from a chosen story or historical event through textiles.
Year 5	Who Are We, Really?	How Did We Get Here?	How Can We Tell Our Stories?	How Does THAT Happen?	How Do We Live Together?	How Can We Care For Our Planet?

						
	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how the ideas and achievements of Ancient Greece continue to shape modern design and architecture. Children will examine the features of Greek architecture, with a particular focus on the Parthenon and column styles (Doric, Ionic, Corinthian). They will use sketching, modelling, and construction techniques to design and create architectural structures, exploring symmetry, proportion, and decorative elements. Children will reflect on how Greek architectural principles influence buildings around the world today.	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how societal beliefs and values were expressed in Ancient Greek theatre and pottery. Children will study the role of drama in Greek society and examine the function and features of theatrical masks. They will also explore Greek vase painting, focusing on how everyday life, myths, and stories were recorded in visual form. Using clay and papier-mâché, children will design and create their own masks and vases inspired by Greek patterns, stories, and characters.	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how Chinese civilisations have used art and storytelling to express values, beliefs, and knowledge. They will investigate the cultural importance of dragons in Chinese mythology and create their own dragon-inspired designs. Children will study The Four Gentlemen and learn traditional brush techniques to paint bamboo, plum blossoms, orchids, and chrysanthemums. They will explore Ming porcelain, analysing traditional motifs and colour palettes before designing and painting their own ceramic tile or paper plate using blue and white glaze effects.	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how knowledge of the natural world influences African artistic traditions and cultural expression. They will examine African animal patterns and explore the bold, vibrant Tingatinga painting style, creating their own piece inspired by nature. Children will sculpt a clay relief plaque inspired by Benin bronze art, developing skills in carving and surface pattern. They will also be introduced to the geometric patterns of Esther Mahlangu's Ndebele art and explore the symbolism of Adinkra symbols from the Ashanti kingdom, creating printed or painted designs with personal meaning.	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will investigate how natural resources are transformed through global trade into textiles and fashion. Children will explore how cotton is grown, processed, and used in industry, and look at examples of traditional and modern textile use across the world. They will design and create a fashionable drawstring bag, applying techniques such as stitching, embellishment, pattern drafting, and logo design. Throughout the unit, children will consider the environmental impact of the fashion industry and the concept of sustainable design.	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how food connects to natural resources, identity, and sustainability. Children will learn about traditional British dishes and regional produce, and investigate how food is grown locally, including seasonal vegetables and herbs. They will explore the influence of global cuisines on British food culture, sampling and preparing simple dishes inspired by different cultures. Children will plan and cook a dish using seasonal ingredients, applying cooking and hygiene skills, and reflecting on the environmental impact of food choices.
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Year 6						
	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how emotions and personal experiences shape identity, using art to reflect on memory, wellbeing, and the legacy of significant events. Children will investigate the historical symbolism of the poppy, reflecting on how WWI and remembrance are commemorated through imagery. Drawing inspiration from artists such as Van Gogh, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Monet, children will explore scale, proportion, and expressive composition in their own poppy-themed artwork. They will work in sketchbooks to refine drawings, experiment with mixed media (including words), and plan an independent final piece that communicates their personal response to remembrance and identity.	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how people and environments change over time, using the theme of flight to investigate scientific form, artistic technique, and the relationship between humans and nature. Children will closely observe feathers, wings, and birds, using pen, ink, and watercolour to explore texture, pattern, and movement. They will experiment with wet-on-wet techniques, colour mixing, and layering, learning how artists use restraint and contrast to capture detail. Through sketchbook work and reflective note-taking, children will document their creative decisions and evaluate how artistic processes mirror scientific observation and understanding of change.	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how artistic styles reflect the beliefs and practices of a civilisation, and how historians can learn from the visual culture left behind. Children will investigate the three types of Ancient Maya masks—celebration, battle, and death—and identify the symbolic features of each. After researching and sketching mask designs, they will create their own mask using clay and oil pastels. They will explore the imagery of the Mayan calendar, using its symbolic system to inspire abstract artwork in black ink and pen, considering how form and repetition can convey cultural meaning. Children will also learn about the Guatemalan Worry Doll tradition and reflect on how emotional expression is represented in folk	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how human inventions are designed to solve problems and meet changing needs, considering both their functionality and their long-term impact. Children will investigate how advances in technology, such as electrical systems and renewable energy, have shaped the way we live. They will develop their understanding of mechanical and electrical components through focused tasks, learning to use motors, pulleys, and switches effectively. Drawing on real-world design challenges, children will plan, test, and build either a working model of a fairground ride or a structurally sound bridge, selecting materials with sustainability and purpose in mind. As part of the design process, they will evaluate their product against criteria for safety, efficiency, and environmental impact, reflecting on the	As part of this half term's inquiry, children will explore how societies adapt during times of crisis, focusing on how decisions made during World War II affected food availability, nutrition, and everyday life. Children will investigate how wartime rationing changed the way people cooked and ate, considering the environmental and human impact of supply shortages and government decisions. They will research and evaluate authentic WWII recipes, considering how limited ingredients were used creatively to maintain health and morale. Children will plan and prepare a selection of ration-based dishes, learning key DT cooking skills such as peeling, chopping, mixing, and weighing, while reflecting on sustainability and food waste. Throughout the	Exhibition



			art. They will design and create their own worry dolls using wool and wooden pegs, documenting the process and their reflections in their sketchbooks.	responsibility of innovation in the modern world.	unit, they will consider how food systems are shaped by political decisions, and how understanding the past can help inform future choices around resource use and global crises.	
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