

Art Enrichment Week 2023

Exploring Line, Colour, Pattern & Expression

Art Enrichment Week 2023 was a vibrant celebration of creativity across the whole school, with each class exploring a different artist or artistic focus. The week highlighted progression in artistic skills from EYFS to Year 6, and children engaged enthusiastically with colour, tone, line, pattern and mixed-media techniques. Our school environment was transformed into a gallery of expressive, skilful and richly varied artwork.

Class-by-Class Overview

Hedgehog Class (EYFS) – Kandinsky’s Colourful Concentric Circles

Hedgehog Class explored the bold colours and patterns of Wassily Kandinsky, focusing on his iconic concentric circles. Children experimented with:

- mixing and selecting colours
- building circular patterns
- layering shapes
- expressing emotions through colour choices

This was a wonderful introduction to abstract art, helping pupils work with shape, repetition and early mark-making.

Squirrel Class (Year 1/2) – “Mister Seahorse” by Eric Carle

Squirrel Class took inspiration from Eric Carle’s ‘Mister Seahorse’, exploring how colour, pattern and texture can bring sea creatures to life.

They:

- painted and printed textured papers
- layered colours to mimic Carle’s collage style
- experimented with warm and cool colour palettes
- created patterned backgrounds inspired by underwater habitats

This supported the development of artistic sequencing, colour blending and imaginative design.

Fox Class (Year 3/4) – Insect Observational Drawings

Fox Class focused on observational drawing, studying insects in detail. They explored the technical elements of drawing including:

- line (using contour, detail and delicate outlines)
- tone and shading (using hatching, cross-hatching and blending)
- adding colour with coloured pencils and watercolours

Pupils demonstrated increasing control, producing highly detailed and sensitive representations of insects. This encouraged perseverance, close observation and confident decision-making about media.

Owl Class (Year 5/6) – Flowers in Shapes, Tones, Colour & Mixed Media

Owl Class developed more advanced artistic techniques, building complex outcomes inspired by floral forms.

They experimented with:

- shape and proportion through sketching and refinement
- tone using shading, cross-hatching and blending
- colour theory, selecting warm, cool or contrasting palettes
- background techniques using watercolours or coloured pencils
- gouache, creating bold, flat colour areas similar to acrylic or oil paint

Their final pieces showed maturity, depth and control, combining mixed media to achieve texture, depth and expressive detail.

Impact of the Week

Art Enrichment Week 2023:

- demonstrated clear progression in artistic skills from EYFS to Year 6
- encouraged experimentation, creative risk-taking and independent thinking
- strengthened children’s understanding of famous artists and techniques
- enriched the school environment with vibrant, high-quality displays
- helped pupils recognise the value of art as self-expression and communication

The week was filled with creativity, concentration and pride, showcasing the thriving art culture within our school.

