

Art Enrichment Week 2024:

A World of Whirls, Wonder, Wet & Wildlife

This year's Art Enrichment Week was a joyful, vibrant celebration of creativity, imagination and artistic expression across the whole school. Under the theme "Clay, Colour & Hundertwasser", pupils explored bold design, swirling colour, tactile materials and expressive mark-making through a series of carefully planned whole-school projects. Each activity encouraged children to experiment, take creative risks and develop the confidence to see themselves as artists.

The week created a wonderful sense of community as pupils collaborated across year groups, contributed to shared artworks and showcased their learning for others to enjoy. Our corridors, hall and outdoor spaces have been transformed into rich visual galleries that reflect the excitement of the week.

Whole-School Highlights

A Huge Collaborative Clay Mural

Across the week, every child contributed to a stunning large-scale mural created from clay tiles and textured details.

Pupils explored:

- clay modelling and joining techniques
- impressing textures using natural and found objects
- how individual pieces combine to create a larger artwork

The final piece proudly displays the creativity of every child in school - a powerful visual reminder of collective achievement.



Hundertwasser-Inspired Hall Display

Inspired by the work of Friedensreich Hundertwasser, children experimented with:

- bold spirals and vibrant colour
- uneven, organic lines
- imaginative architecture
- repeated patterns and flowing forms

Their work now forms a striking hall display bursting with colour, movement and joyful design - a celebration of individuality and imagination.

Whole-School Charcoal Gallery

All pupils also took part in a charcoal exploration session, discovering how to dramatic effects.



Children practised:

- shading and blending
- smudging and mark-making
- contrast and tone

The results were curated into an impressive outdoor charcoal gallery, showcasing expressive drawings from EYFS to Year 6.

In addition to our whole-school projects, each Key Stage also explored a specialist art focus. Year 1/2 experimented with wet felting, learning how to layer coloured wool fibres, apply soapy water and use gentle pressure to bind the fibres together. The children were fascinated by how the soft wool transformed into a textured piece of fabric art. They carefully arranged patterns and colour blends before rolling, squeezing and shaping their felt, developing fine motor skills and an understanding of how materials behave and change.

Year 3/4 created expressive charcoal insect drawings, building on their observational drawing skills. They looked closely at the shapes, segments and tiny details of different insects, using charcoal sticks and blending tools to create tone, texture and dramatic contrasts. Children explored smudging, shading, and layering marks to bring their insects to life, resulting in striking monochrome pieces that showed real confidence and control.

Our older pupils also worked with photographic techniques. Year 5 explored forced-perspective photography, learning how camera angles can alter scale and create imaginative illusions. Children worked in pairs to plan, stage and capture playful compositions - balancing objects on fingertips, "holding" buildings, or interacting with oversized props - developing their visual literacy and teamwork. Year 6 focused on macro photography, using close-up lenses or zoom functions to capture fine details normally overlooked. They photographed natural textures, plants, and everyday classroom objects, discovering unexpected patterns, shapes and structures. Their final images were beautifully composed and showed a mature eye for detail.

Pupil Voice

Including children's reflections was central to the week, reinforcing ownership, pride and artistic identity:

"My clay piece went onto the giant picture!" – EYFS

"Charcoal made amazing shadows." – Year 1

"Our gallery outside looks fantastic." – Year 6

These comments reflect the children's enjoyment, awe and sense of accomplishment.

Impact of the Week

- promoted creativity, imagination and experimentation
- allowed all pupils to learn new artistic techniques and media
- celebrated the idea that art is collaborative, expressive and for everyone
- strengthened pupils' confidence and pride in their abilities
- enriched our learning environment through high-quality displays
- supported cultural development by exploring the work of Hundertwasser
- encouraged meaningful pupil voice and reflection

The week left our school filled with colour, texture, collaboration and joy — a powerful testament to the role of the arts in supporting wellbeing, creativity and whole-child development.

