

### A message from Mrs Buckley, our Art and Design and Technology Lead

We are invested at Darlinghurst in enriching children's learning experience at school and have designated Art Design and technology lessons taught by myself every week. I have a great desire to nurture and enhance creative ability as well as encourage skills within the subject area, and have a classroom dedicated to these lessons, where as well guided lessons being taught work is displayed and celebrated.

### Design and Purpose

Within our school we have many creative children from nursery to year 6 who all have the chance to engage in art and DT based sessions. The children have a love of this creative expression at Darlinghurst and we aim to teach and enhance the skills they need to create, enquire and explore the arts. All Art/DT is linked to the Edison curriculum and their topic work, which further embeds their learning in class, and helps to reinforce the understanding of the connected curriculum within Art and DT. This approach also fosters the development of progress and skills within this subject area.

### Difference

Here at Darlinghurst the children have the opportunity to develop and try new mediums linked to the arts, many of which they are experiencing for the first time, such as clay, origami, beading, printing, paints, oil pastels and much more. They learn to critique and examine artists and their artwork and attempt to emulate these styles as well as expanding their creative abilities in their own designated space. The children look forward to their weekly sessions and take great pride in sketch booking and experimenting with the materials in the Art Room. Pupils are assessed in an ongoing manner in order to ascertain any strengths and weaknesses to enable scaffolding and support, identify plateauing and skilled students which enables and enhances progression. Teaching smaller groups of children has a positive impact and makes better use of lesson time and skills progression. The use of deeper questioning, talk partners, peer assessment, teamwork and vocabulary linked to skills within the subject area also adds to progression and reinforcement, and helps to embed new and learnt knowledge within the connected curriculum linked to Art/DT.

Each topic has a start and end point to show achievement, such as the use of Austin's Butterfly which displays that attainment is within everyone's grasp and links in to the ethos and direction of our school. We celebrate and participate in communal events which further adds to the experience and enhancement of the educational impact on our children. We participated in Hares about Town and have taken part in the Leigh Art Trail and various competitions and have worked with Metal. The Academy welcomes visitors such as visiting artists, poets and historical enthusiasts who have joined in with the lessons or run workshops. We regularly run an art club and combine forces with other schools to showcase work and share ideas as well as stay up to date with current ideas and skills. The children have had involvement with a local elderly residents' home for poppy day and Christmas which has been a worthwhile opportunity for them to link Art/DT to cultural capital as well as SMSC.

Deeper days are also a feature of our overall school ethos and the children all take part in Art and DT lessons for Black History Month and Eco week as well as many other deeper days activities. Festivals are celebrated in Art/DT lessons from a variety of cultures enabling a better understanding of our own as well as others cultures, such as Chinese New Year.

**'Achieving Excellence Together'**

## Art and design reflections

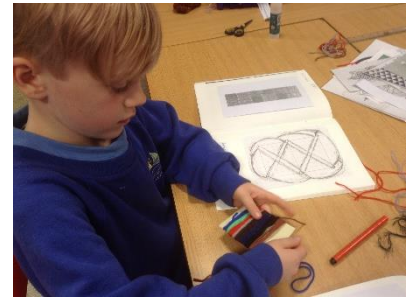
### Autumn 2021

In this term as well as linking Art/DT to our connected curriculum we celebrated Harvest, Remembrance Day, Black History and Christmas with art based activities.

**Year 6** – We looked at the topic, What's Out There? We practised our shape drawing linked to geometry and concentrated on sketching, shading, toning and reflection. We used oil pastels and collage to create designs based on the planets and space and emulated the style of artists linked to Black History. Year 6 also looked at World War Two Propaganda posters and the style and lettering linked to these designs.



**Year 5** – Year 5 examined Pop art which worked well with the subject of liquids, gases and solids. We created Ice lolly wrapper designs after practising the pop art style and artists of this genre. Year 5 also focused on perspective as they sketched their castles and we investigated the history and architecture of these buildings.



**Year 4** – In year 4 we focused on painting techniques and cutting and collage. This tied in with the topic How do we see? We looked at a variety of artists and also colours linked to emotion, as well as surreal and abstract art styles. Year 4 focused on the design aspect of Celtic art with a crossover to geometry. We looked at shape, colour and texture and made our own Celtic knots.

**Year 3** – We concentrated on blending within the topic of electricity where we examined colours linked to emotion and discussed how light and colours are absorbed and reflected. Year 3 also practised paint techniques with water colour pencils as we created Egyptian artwork.



**Year 2** – Asked, 'Can Party Food Be Healthy?' We studied artists linked to this subject and made food faces using natural and man-made materials. Within this subject we concentrated on design. Year 2 also created pumpkin art and craft. Year 2 made clay models based on The Great Fire of London houses where we practised our clay modelling and herringbone designs.

**Year 1** – We investigated toys and made Forkys based on the film Toy Story we also designed and sketched characters from Toy Story. Year 1 created a fantasy school in their books based on 'Hello I'm New Here.'

**Reception** – Concentrated on motor skills and colours. We learnt about primary colours and experimented with colour mixing on the colour wheel. We also created masks and reinforced our learning and mixing of colours.

### Spring 2022

In this term as well as linking Art/DT to our connected curriculum we celebrated Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day and Easter based art and DT. We also took part in the Chinese New Year activity weekend in Southend High Street, where some of our children's art work was displayed and celebrated. During this term, science week was also celebrated as the children sketched bones and skulls and in addition, looked at artists such as Leonardo Da Vinci and his approach to the human body and portraits. We also drew from real life plants and flowers and examined their natural beauty.



**Year 6** –The students designed a new species based on 'Why Do some creatures no longer exist?' We designed a new species in our sketchbooks, where we thought about habitats, evolution, pattern, size and texture. In the second half of this term, our skills focus was based on portraits and we practised proportions and facial features like the nose, eyes and the mouth. We considered how shading effectively and attention to detail can create a more true-to-life composition.

**Year 5** –We designed roller coasters linked to our theme of The Fairground. Our skills focus was based on design and structure. For the second part of our spring term we based our art lessons around 'Do We Make The Most Of What's on our Doorstep?' Our skills focus was Observational Drawing, where we concentrated on sketching flowers and learnt more about tone, form and how shading and highlights can benefit our sketches. We also made careful use of colour, light and shade and looked at Van Gough's Sunflowers as a guide.



**Year 4** –Some of the children In this year group drew and painted tigers and dragons for our Chinese New Year exhibit in Southend High Street. The children designed chocolate wrappers for our topic of 'Should we stop eating chocolate?'. We focused on pop art lettering and style for this and for the second half of the term, we concentrated on sketching skulls and bones for our topic of 'What happens inside us?'. This was a really useful project as the



children could hone in on shape, light and shade and the tone of their pencil to enhance their sketching skills.



**Year 3** –Pupils designed shadow puppets for our Mayan creation story and designed Mayan temples in their books for our theme of 'Let's go on an adventure'. In the second half of term, we had guided sketching classes and step-by-step sketching of insects. We used colour to define light, shade and shape in our sketches and we drew Macro bug faces as a prelude for a collage.

**Year 2-** The children painted plates in the style of Kandinsky for our theme of Mrs Armitage and transport and practised animal patterns and sketching tigers in the second half of the term in preparation for our Rousseau inspired art. We also used oil pastels in our work to add more depth and texture when we re- created 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' illustrations for World Book Day.



**Year 1-** Linked to our theme of 'Why is Water Precious?' we experimented with colour mixing using watercolours, using different brushes, mixing blues and adding white. We also added salt to make texture and patterns. The children looked at 'Waterlilies' by Monet and 'Koi Fish' by Michael Creese, and emulated this style, by lightly sketching, using our space wisely and thinking about shape, colour and size, when we drew sea creatures and blended oil pastels carefully, using paper, cotton buds and our fingers, as another medium for art.



### Summer 2022

This term has been really exciting as the children from each year group have worked on, and many have had work displayed, in our fantastic travelling Art/DT exhibition. Darlinghurst Academy teamed up with the Portico schools group to display the amazing artwork of our talented children, alongside that of the



other schools. The children all had an opportunity to view the exhibition as well as parents to really see the level of talent that young people possess at our school and other schools within our community.

Alongside this, we have been working on a collaborative project with a local artist and sculptor linked to Metal Culture, to engage in the 'Art Makes Children Powerful' workshops. Philippa Stewart was the artist assigned to the project attached to our school and worked alongside myself and Miss Arnold, our Outdoor Learning Teacher, in which the children learnt traditional, historical methods from the past. We have created some



amazing natural sculptures and sculptures with recyclable materials that can all add to our environment and be utilised in an ongoing manner for Art and Outdoor Learning activities. The sculptures represent a traditional roundhouse, a fish trap and a natural dwelling. We will also have our exhibition work displayed at the Leigh Art Trail this September as well as some of our Metal Culture work.

**Year 6** –The children explored the art of illuminated manuscripts after studying the painting of 'The Lady Of Shallot' as this relates to the medieval theme of the painting. We learnt about the pre-Raphaelite movement and the artist John William Waterhouse. Our focus was using the romantic style to look at lettering shape and 3D imagery as well as detail and the careful use of mixed media.



**Year 5** –We created some exceptional pieces of art from our Highwayman project, where the children explored the skill of blending charcoal and oil pastels to create some amazing landscape art based on the poem. Alongside this, there was a great response to art homework to create Masks from the 1700's and wanted posters relating to this era showcasing the student's wonderful artistic interpretation. Our skills focus was perspective, blending and the creation of a mood and atmosphere to



match the artwork. Year 5 learnt how to spin and weave for our metal project and took part in adding to the sculptures.



**Year 4**-Our focus in Year 4 was perspective, composition and vanishing point which we incorporated into our topic of 'A View From A Railway Carriage' to create a vanishing track with added scenery using mixed media to create some beautiful pieces of work. As well as this, the children worked on wattle and daub sculptures and machetes for our Metal project and learnt how to spin and bead using

traditional methods in our outdoor learning area.



**Year 3** –We looked at shape in regard to our bug drawing then we combined the styles of Eric Carle and his collage style and the macro bug photographer Marco Retana creating close up bug pieces in detail adding flat collage and really concentrating on this as a skills focus. Year 3 children helped to weave and thatch and added natural materials to our 'Art Makes Children Powerful' sculptures.



**Year 2**- Our theme was 'The Owl and the Pussycat' where we experimented with line drawing and light sketching in the style of Edward Lear as well as reflecting back to the style of Quentin Blake and recreating his style for our owl and the pussycat designs. We used watercolour wash after honing our sketching technique. Year two made fossils for our metal project and clay necklaces representing teeth and bones which are all being added to our sculptures.



**Year 1**- Linked to 'The Starry Night' painting by Van Gogh, the children concentrated on painting skills and choosing the correct colours related to the painting .The children emulated movement within the painting as well as creating silhouettes in the foreground and adding to the texture using appropriate tone, shade, highlights and short and long brushstrokes. Within our Metal project, Year 1 made print stamps for fish to add to our sculpture and added simple thatching.

**Useful websites**

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/teacher-category/art/>

**Art and Design Gallery**

