Curriculum Update

Welcome to a new section of the weekly newsletter. Each week we will focus on a different area of the curriculum, sharing information about what and how we teach that subject across the school as well as any tips for how you can get involved.

This edition is all about **Art and Design** with a focus on Drawing and Painting

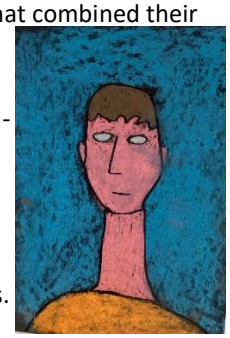
Our Art and Design Curriculum

Our Art and Design curriculum is comprised of eight strands: drawing, painting, collage, digital media, sculpture, print, textile and knowledge of artists, architects and craftspeople.

In the first term of the year, we learn and develop skills in painting and drawing. Across the school, we give children a wide range of artistic opportunities, sometimes through discrete lessons to acquire specific skills, sometimes making meaningful connections with other curriculum areas. We learn to see like an artist! EYFS have been developing fine motor skills. They have learnt to handle brushes and paint and have been choosing their own colours. This term, they have begun mixing their own shades of blue with powder paint. There is a beautiful display of some incredible painting in the corridor outside their classrooms.

Year group	Areas of study since the start of the year -
EYFS	Using drawing materials, choosing and mixing paint colours
Y1 and 2	Mixing colours and painting, collage, Van Gogh
Y3 and 4	Drawing and painting, photography, Modigliani, collage
Y5	Mixing paint, drawing, sculpture, mixed media collage and print
Y6	Painting, printmaking, overlaying colours, Seurat

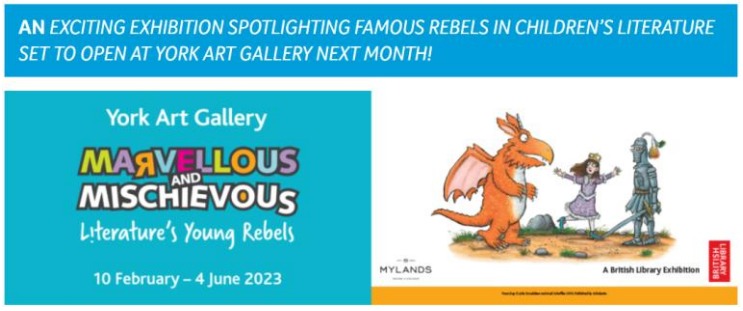
In the first term, Y3 and 4 turned themselves into works of art. They drew self-portraits in the style of Modigliani. The bold images they created relied on strength of line and confident use of pastels for shading. They did a great job creating drawings that combined their own personalities with Modigliani's characteristic elongated forms. Currently, their classrooms are filled with more exuberant pieces - there is a riot of Egyptian headdresses and decorated faces!



Y5 began the year with an excellent 'foundation activity' to re-establish and develop painting skills. They made special, decorated sculptural birds, inspired by a text they were using in literacy. The semi-graphic novel, Hugo Cabret has also inspired some beautiful pencil sketching, using different shading techniques to create depth and texture. Y6 have been using paint in the manner of 'pointillists', mixing their own colours and creating images inspired by the French artist, Seurat. They have been mixing their own powder colour this term too, as part of a printmaking project.

Year 1 and 2 have been using paint in an exciting way, mixing their own shades of green in some lively jungle paintings based on a work by Henri Rousseau. In their classes, they have also worked on drawings of their families and a collaborative drawing based on an image by the artist, Van Gogh. Their sketchbooks are starting to look really busy and interesting.

York City Art Gallery is a great place to take in quality art right in the heart of our city – the permanent collection (most of the gallery) is free and there is plenty to look at. (You only pay to view visiting exhibitions.)
There are usually art materials available, so you can indulge your own creativity and make your own versions of what you see on display.



'Marvellous and Mischievous' at York Art Gallery will be open from 10 February – 4 June 2023. Adult tickets: £6, Child: £6, Concessions available. For more information and to book tickets please visit www.yorkartgallery.org.uk.