

Art and Design

Subject Leader Report



Subject Leader: Jodie Tyrer

Autumn Term

During the last half term, Masefield Primary School dedicated its art curriculum to exploring drawing across all year groups, from EYFS to Year 6. This focused approach enabled children to develop foundational and advanced skills in pencil work, encouraging creativity, precision, and a deeper understanding of artistic techniques. Each class researched a chosen artist, closely studying their works and applying their insights to their own creations.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)-The youngest artists in EYFS embarked on their drawing journey by exploring the basics of mark-making with pencils. Through playful experimentation, they discovered how to create different types of marks, including lines, dots, and simple shapes. This foundational work encouraged the development of fine motor skills and introduced children to the expressive potential of pencil drawing.

Key Stage 1 (KS1)- In Key Stage 1, children expanded their understanding of drawing by exploring how to use different gradients of pencils to create tone and texture. Year 1 and Year 2 pupils practiced shading techniques to achieve light and dark areas, explored how different pencil pressures could affect their work, and used these skills to enhance their artwork. This stage helped children develop a sense of depth and detail in their drawings, building on the foundational skills established in EYFS.

Key Stage 2 (KS2) - In Key Stage 2, pupils engaged in more sophisticated drawing techniques, focusing on manipulating pencil gradients to achieve specific outcomes. Each year group applied these skills to progressively challenging tasks:

- **Year 3 and Year 4** focused on refining their control over tone and texture, using pencils to replicate natural forms and intricate details.
- **Year 5** delved into the principles of perspective, learning to use pencils to create the illusion of depth and distance in their compositions.
- **Year 6** explored advanced techniques to combine tone, texture, and perspective, producing highly detailed and expressive works inspired by their chosen artist.

Artist Research-Across the school, children studied the works of notable artists who specialize in drawing, such as Paul Klee and Vincent van Gogh. By analysing these artists' techniques and approaches, pupils gained valuable insights into the creative process and applied these lessons to their own artwork.

Outcomes and Reflections-This half term's focus on drawing has significantly enhanced pupils' skills, confidence, and appreciation for art. Children across all age groups demonstrated increased precision and creativity in their pencil work. Teachers and pupils reported that the research element inspired pupils to think critically about artistic techniques and encouraged them to experiment with their own styles.

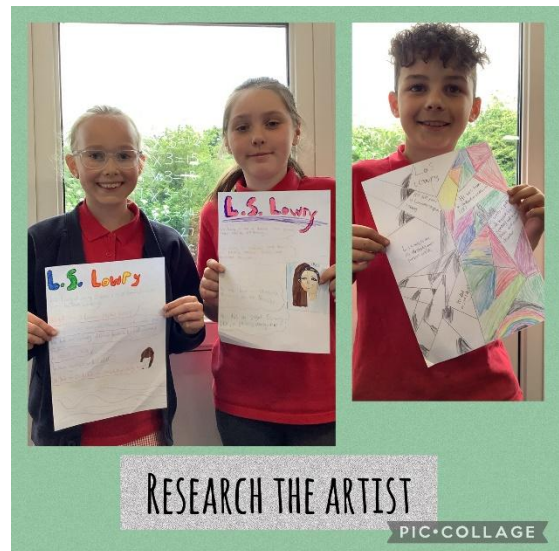
Next steps - The next steps in Art at Masefield Primary School will focus on fostering consistency and collaboration. This includes working closely with the student teacher to align teaching approaches, ensuring continuity in lesson delivery, and maintaining high standards across all year groups. Regular planning sessions will be scheduled to review curriculum goals, share effective strategies, and provide constructive feedback. By establishing clear expectations and offering

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support, we aim to enhance the learning experience for students and promote a cohesive artistic environment.



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Spring Term

Art and Design at Masefield Primary School has been an engaging and enriching experience this half term, with a strong focus on developing creativity and technical skills through a carefully structured spiral curriculum. Following rigorous monitoring of the subject, many strengths were highlighted.

EYFS: Exploring colour

Children in EYFS have been introduced to the world of painting through the study of Wassily Kandinsky. They explored his use of shape, colour, and abstract forms. Using paint and oil pastels, they created their own artwork inspired by Kandinsky's distinctive style, developing their fine motor skills and understanding of artistic expression.

Year 1: Colour mixing

Building upon their EYFS experiences, Year 1 children have continued their exploration of Kandinsky. They have studied primary and secondary colours, learning how to mix colours effectively. The children then applied this knowledge by creating their own final pieces in the style of Kandinsky, demonstrating their ability to mix and apply colours independently.

Year 3: Painting using tertiary colours

In Year 3, children deepened their understanding of colour theory by learning about tertiary colours and how they are created. Additionally, they explored painting techniques such as creating a whitewash background to enhance their final pieces. These activities helped to develop their confidence in colour mixing and painting techniques.

Year 5: Painting using tone and mood

As part of the spiral curriculum, Year 5 further embedded their painting skills and knowledge. They researched the artist Louis M'bunghuni, exploring his artistic techniques and themes. Following their research, children experimented with using paint to convey mood and tone, refining their understanding of how colour can be used expressively within their artwork.

Year 2: Exploring Sculpture

In Year 2, children studied sculpture, drawing inspiration from the renowned artist Andy Goldsworthy. They examined his work and used natural materials to recreate some of his most famous pieces. This hands-on approach allowed students to explore texture, form, and composition in a meaningful way. Additionally, they expanded their sculptural techniques by working with papier-mâché, layering paper to create strength and structure. This skill was then applied to a historical project, where they constructed houses from 1666, linking their art studies to their history curriculum.

Year 4: Collaborative Collage

Year 4 children built upon their foundational skills from Year 2, culminating in a collaborative final piece using collage techniques. Through this process, they refined their ability to layer materials,

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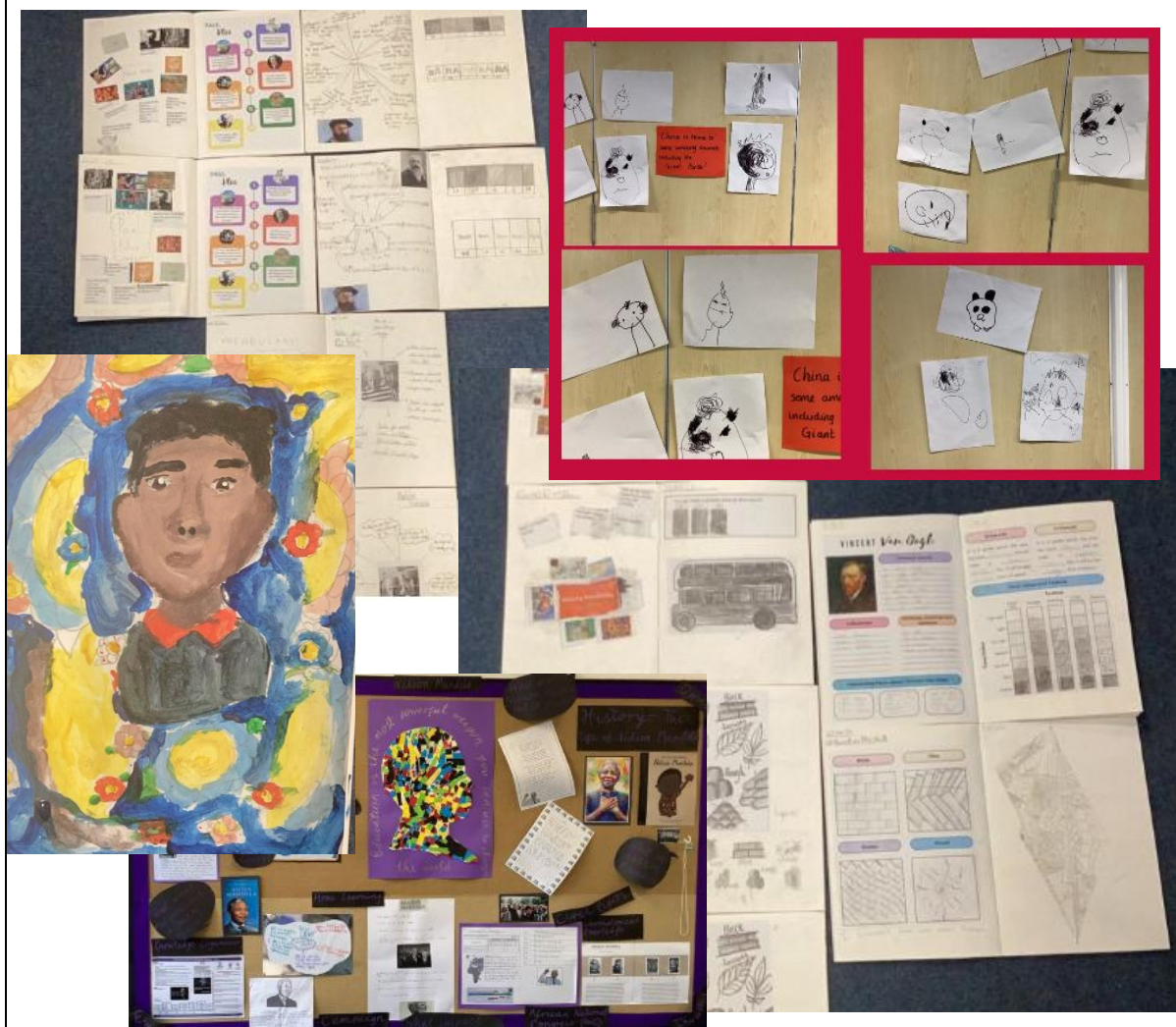


consider composition, and work as a team. This project also featured strong cross-curricular links, connecting with their history topic on Nelson Mandela, allowing them to express key historical themes through artistic expression.

Year 6: Painting and Frida Kahlo

In Year 6, children revisited painting, focusing on the extraordinary works of Frida Kahlo. They analyzed her style, techniques, and thematic choices before creating their own final pieces inspired by her art. This project built upon the painting skills developed in previous years, encouraging students to explore self-expression, symbolism, and intricate detailing in their artwork.

Across all year groups, the Art and Design curriculum at Masefield Primary School has provided children with opportunities to explore a range of artistic techniques, develop critical thinking, and make meaningful connections with other subjects. Their journey through sculpture, collage, and painting has not only enriched their creative skills but also deepened their appreciation for art history and cultural influences.



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Summer Term

The Summer Term at Masefield Primary School has continued to celebrate creativity, expression, and the development of artistic techniques through a diverse and exciting Art and Design curriculum. Pupils across all year groups have explored new media, studied influential artists, and created meaningful, imaginative artwork that reflects both their technical progress and their personal interpretation.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS): Creative Explorers

In EYFS, our youngest learners engaged in exploratory printing and collage activities, using a variety of materials and tools to make marks and patterns. Through play-based learning, children were introduced to the concepts of repetition, texture, and layering. These experiences supported the development of fine motor skills, encouraged experimentation, and nurtured their understanding of composition and colour in a creative context.

Year 1: Introduction to Printing

Year 1 pupils were introduced to the art of printing. They explored simple techniques such as stamping, rolling, and using natural and found objects to create repeated patterns. Through this hands-on approach, children began to understand how images can be transferred and repeated, building confidence in planning and executing their designs.

Year 2: Painting and Collage

Building on their colour mixing skills from the Spring Term, Year 2 pupils combined painting and collage to produce vibrant, mixed-media artwork. They explored layering painted backgrounds with a range of textured materials to create depth and interest. This unit encouraged imaginative thinking and helped pupils make decisions about contrast, composition, and visual balance.

Year 3: Developing Printing Techniques

In Year 3, pupils revisited and advanced their understanding of printing. They experimented with block printing using foam and card, learning how to carve simple designs and apply ink effectively. This experience allowed them to consider how patterns are formed, and how repeating shapes and images can be used to create decorative effects, drawing inspiration from cultural and historical sources.

Year 4: Painting and Sculpture

Year 4 children explored both 2D and 3D media, beginning with expressive painting techniques and moving into sculptural work. Inspired by abstract artists and sculptors, they experimented with shape, form, and texture. Using clay and papier-mâché, they created imaginative sculptures, learning about structure and balance. Their paintings

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supported this work, offering opportunities to express emotion and movement through colour and brushwork.

Year 5: Advanced Printing Techniques

Year 5 pupils developed their printing skills further by exploring more intricate techniques such as mono-printing and overlaying colours. Inspired by cultural art traditions and contemporary printmakers, they created layered prints with strong attention to detail, symmetry, and pattern. The focus was on control, planning, and refining designs through experimentation and evaluation.

Year 6: Sculpture and Collage

As a culmination of their primary art journey, Year 6 pupils combined their understanding of sculpture and collage in a sophisticated mixed-media project. They researched artists known for assemblage and 3D collage, then developed their own expressive pieces that conveyed personal or social themes. This project encouraged critical thinking, symbolism, and creativity, allowing pupils to reflect on their artistic identity and produce thoughtful, ambitious final pieces.

Reflection

This term has highlighted the breadth and depth of artistic skills developed throughout the year at Masefield Primary School. Pupils have shown remarkable creativity, resilience, and enthusiasm as they explored new materials and techniques. Their artwork reflects growing independence, refined technical skills, and a deepening appreciation for the power of visual expression.

The Art and Design curriculum continues to provide rich opportunities for cross-curricular learning, personal development, and creative exploration, ensuring that every child experience success and joy through art.