



Expressive Arts and Design

The **Expressive Arts and Design** area of the curriculum aids the development of children's artistic and cultural awareness, and supports their imagination and creativity. In our EYFS classroom, Expressive Arts and Design is taught through a cross-curricular approach by making links to our termly topic or focus book. Our children are taught key skills such as colour mixing, designing, and constructing through engaging, interactive lessons that relate to the children's own interests and experiences. Children are given opportunities to develop their artistic skills, imagination and use of tools and equipment through exciting play-based activities and 'enhancements' during child-initiated sessions. They are encouraged to work collaboratively to create shared artwork as well as individual pieces. Our children are provided with a wide range of materials and equipment to explore on a daily basis, most of which are readily available for the children to choose and use independently in our 'creation station'. Our home corner and changeable role play areas allow our children to develop storylines in their pretend play and they have access to an array of resources and props to support their storytelling skills. Musical instruments, ribbons, fancy dress costumes and pompoms are on stand-by should children wish to perform a show, play or concert to their peers. The much-anticipated Lower School Nativity provides a wonderful opportunity for the children to show-off their singing skills to their families and helps build their confidence to perform in front of an audience. The children also participate in regular singing sessions both in class and in Lower School assemblies.

Look out...oh no...it's the Gruffalo!

When focussing on 'The Gruffalo' story by Julia Donaldson, our children were taught how to manipulate and mould clay. During child-initiated time, children self-selected materials to create their own Gruffalo models.



It's Cold Outside!

During our topic based around winter weather, the children were fascinated by the icy trail left by Jack Frost. The children used their imaginations and a range of materials to create their own Jack. They also explored what happened when ice and paint are mixed following our exploration of the Northern Lights and Polar Regions.



A dragon on the loose!

After the Easter holidays, a mysterious egg appeared in our classroom. After an exciting few days our egg hatched and the school's CCTV footage revealed that a baby dragon was on the loose somewhere around the school! The children were inspired to make their own dragons during their investigation and discovery sessions.



Royal Banners

Following on from our topic 'A Royal Adventure', the children created careful self-portraits by looking closely in mirrors.



Let's Recreate!

Our children enjoy recreating roles in the home corner and in our role play areas, which change regularly.

