



CHEADLE CATHOLIC INFANT SCHOOL

Art Rationale

Art is a vital part of the Primary Curriculum. It provides a means of expression for all children regardless of their competence in verbal and written communication.

It is a practical subject which stimulates creativity and imagination using a wide range of materials. Art can be used effectively as a cross-curricular link, to enable children to develop further their understanding and experiences.

At Cheadle Catholic Infant School, the art curriculum has been planned to develop children's learning through topics that we know the children are interested in and to make links between learning in other areas. The learning is progressive and in each year group key skills have been identified that will help the children to go forward to the next stage.

The art co-ordinator has helped to develop the curriculum within each year group to ensure, continuity and the progression of skills.

Nursery

In the Autumn term, the children will look at the concept of colour. They will focus on the book 'The Colour Monster.' They will begin by naming colours and using a variety of different media to experiment with colour. The children will learn that sometimes a colour can be used for a purpose. They will learn that tools can be used to create colour e.g. brushes, sponges, cotton buds, hands, fingers etc. They will explore how to use colour on different surfaces e.g. paper, card, walls, the playground etc. When using paint, the children may begin to observe what happens when two colours mix. They will also experience the chance to learn new techniques. During this term they will experiment with marbling, again focussing on colours and how they mix.

Nursery age children need to develop their fine motor skills. They will learn how to hold tools, e.g. pencils, paintbrushes, felt pens, crayons, and begin to make lines and shapes to represent people, objects and events in their lives. They will also need to develop dexterity in the muscles of their hands to increase their fine motor control and malleable materials can be used for this. The children in Nursery often integrate 'Dough Disco' into their weekly timetable. The children will learn how to roll, pull, twist and stretch malleable materials to create different shapes. During art sessions they will begin to make simple sculptures and try to create the characters from favourite books like the Gruffalo.

Towards the end of this term, the children will look at the artist Mondrian and focus on his use of colours and shapes. The children should be encouraged at an early age to form an opinion about the artists' work e.g. 'What do you like/dislike about this artists' work?' They will then try to replicate a piece of his work and talk about they achieved it. They will look at their own work and the work of others and talk about the aspects they like the best.

In the Spring Term, the children will continue to build upon their skills of drawing, painting and sculpture and they will begin to use ICT for a purpose, to create a picture.

The first topic will focus on Nursery Rhymes and the children will be given the chance to draw and paint their favourite characters. They will be able to build upon their previous drawing skills and think about their use of colours and shapes. The children can begin to draw from imagination, making up their own characters and settings from the stories and rhymes they have heard.

The second topic, 'Traditional Tales,' will build upon their skills of sculpture. They will begin to build 'The Three Little Pigs' houses and the characters from construction sets, recycled materials, natural or man-made objects. They will develop skills of building and balancing both vertically and horizontally.

The children will begin to use scissors to cut out the characters to create puppets and act out the story. They can use craft resources to create their own collages.

The children can create 3D models of the 3 pigs and the wolf from malleable materials.

At the end of the term the children will look at the work of a British artist/designer called Steve Roberts. He is the artist that inspired the children's TV series 'The Twirlywoos.' The children can begin to draw the Twirlywoos and develop it into a 3D model like the characters in the TV production.

During the summer term, the children will look at the topic of 'Growing' and focus on the book called 'Jaspers' Beanstalk.' They will make observational drawings of seeds and plants/flowers. They will be given opportunities to choose the medium of their choice e.g. paint, pastels, chalk, crayons, felt pens. They will begin to make prints using potatoes, sponges and other materials and in doing so, they can create patterns.

The second topic of the summer term will focus on 'Minibeasts' and the children will use the book called 'What the Ladybird Heard' as their stimulus. The children will focus on collage and textiles. They will look at the artist Henri Matisse and his work called 'The Snail.' The children will learn about the use of collage to create an image. They will again talk about what they like/dislike about the artists' work and will have the opportunity to replicate it.

The children will look at a variety of different textiles and talk about how they look, how they feel, and the similarities and differences between them. They need to work with natural and synthetic materials and to have a basic understanding of where some materials come from e.g. wool from a sheep/cotton from a plant. They must be provided with opportunities to work with wool, thread, string, ribbon and cotton wool during collage work. They also need to experiment using fabrics when creating their own dens both indoors and outdoors.

Reception

During the Reception year, the children need to be given opportunities to experiment with what they have learnt during Nursery. They need to build upon this by starting to make choices of their own in terms of the resources they choose.

In the Autumn term, the children in Reception will look at the topic 'All About Me.' They will begin by developing their drawing skills, looking at self-portraits and having chance to draw each other. They will look at how colours can be used for a purpose e.g. looking at eye, hair and skin colour and trying to colour match. They will also draw things that are important to them e.g. their family/pets/toys. They will use a variety of media to colour their drawings e.g. felt pens, pastels, paints, crayons.

The children will have opportunities to collage their face using a variety of materials. They can make 2D faces using shapes and images of themselves using computer programs.

Following on with the theme of colours and shapes, the children will look at the artist Wassily Kandinsky. They will have opportunity to discuss his work, thinking about aspects of his work that they like/dislike. They will have chance to replicate his work by collaging coloured shapes in a similar

style. The children must be provided with time to reflect on their work and discuss what they could have done to improve.

During the second half of the Autumn Term, the children will look at the topic 'Seasons and Celebrations.' During this term, the children will have opportunity to make a variety of crafts. The children are given ideas of things to make but ultimately the children should choose their own resources. The children will make crafts relating to the celebrations throughout this season e.g. Halloween, Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas.

During the first half of the Spring Term, the children will focus on the topic of 'Superheroes.' The children will do lots of drawing from imagination e.g. drawing superheroes, their costumes and the vehicles they might travel in. They will make the character from the children's book 'Supertato' using a potato and a variety of materials to make a costume for him. They will collage a cityscape using glue and sugar paper.

For the second half of the term, the children will look at 'Minibeasts.' They will make observational drawings. They will create 3D models using a variety of recycled materials. They will use play dough to make minibeasts adding resources such as twigs match sticks and pompoms when creating other body parts. The children will think about patterns that they see in nature, in insects, flowers, leaves and plants. The children will be able to print symmetrical butterflies using paint. They will be provided with opportunities to weave using natural resources e.g. wool, twigs, grass, flowers etc

During the summer term, the children will initially focus on the topic of 'Space.' They will use 2D shapes to create pictures and they will draw imaginary creatures from other worlds. The children will have the opportunity to create a planet using marbling inks and they will paint pictures of the Solar System. They will be provided with opportunities to design their own space rockets using a variety of resources and draw space pictures using chalks and pastels.

The last topic in the Reception year focuses on 'Under the Sea.' During this topic, the children will draw from memory times when they have been to the sea/seaside. They will think about objects that they might find on the beach or within nature e.g. shells, pebbles, driftwood. They will make observational drawings of these objects. The children will study the artist 'Andy Goldsworthy'. They will make collages using natural objects and group sculptures outdoors. The children will discuss the creatures they might find in the sea. They will make prints of fish and make a model of a sea creature. They will also make 3D aquariums for their sea creature to live in.

Year 1

In the Autumn term, the children in Year 1 will focus on the topic of 'Ourselves.' During this topic, they will begin by looking at a variety of famous artists self-portraits. They will use mirrors and try to draw their own self-portraits. They will look at how they can create areas of light and shade within their drawings. The children will have opportunities to draw and paint a portrait of a friend and mix paints to create the correct colour to match the various parts of the face e.g. skin, eye colour, hair colour. They will explore textiles; thinking about how they look, how they feel and exploring how textiles can be used to create different textures. The children can create faces from textiles and other materials. They will look at the work of the cubist artist Pablo Picasso. They will be encouraged to talk about his work and discuss any aspects of his work that they like/dislike and they will be able to replicate his work. The children need to self-evaluate their own work and that of their peers. They should be able to think about how they could improve their work in the future.

In the Spring Term, the year 1 children will focus on the topic 'Flowers and Plants.' The children will begin by looking at the painting of 'Sunflowers' by Van Gogh. They will talk about how art can make them feel just as Van Gogh used colour to express how he was feeling. During this topic they will begin by making observational drawings of sunflowers. They will be asked to look in detail at the proportions of each part of the flower e.g. the flower, the leaves and the stem. The children will complete the drawing in pencil. They will learn about the colour wheel and how colours can be made lighter using tints of white and how colours can be made darker by adding black to create shades. The children will learn how to create tints and shades and use this knowledge when they paint their sunflowers. The children will be given a variety of brushes of different thicknesses to enable them to paint larger areas with thicker brushes and paint finer details with thinner brushes.

Next the children will make a flower/plant design. They will draw it out onto a piece of foam and then use coloured paints to print out their design. Finally, the children will learn about the artist Marc Quinn. They will look at some of the sculptures he has made and discuss what they notice about them. They will be asked to design their own flower/plant sculpture. This could be in the form of a 3D sculpture or a design on a tile. The children will create their design using salt dough.

During the summer term, the year 1 children will work on the topic 'Seaside Holidays.' To begin the topic the children will create a simple image of the seaside. They will look at the technique of using wax resist to create an image.

Next, they will look at Seascapes painted by Elizabeth Lennie. They will explore how she successfully creates areas of warmth by using warm colours and areas of cool using cool colours. The children will have time to explore the ideas behind warm and cool colours. They will have chance to create their own seascape in the style of Elizabeth Lennie. They can choose to create their seascape from memory from their own seaside holidays, or from their imagination.

Finally, the children will create a seaside weaving using a cardboard weaving loom. They will use wool to create a weft thread and ribbons or strips of coloured paper to create the weave. Later the children can decorate their weaving to give it a seaside feel. They will do this using a variety of materials and resources e.g. sequins, fabric, coloured fish shapes, shells, driftwood etc.

Year 2

At the beginning of the Autumn term the Year 2 children will be learning about 'Plants' in science. They will look at Monet and his use of plants in his art. The children will look at Monet's techniques to create colour and light in different ways. The children will focus on how to mix a variety of colours and how to show areas of light.

In the second half of the Autumn term, they will focus on patterns in our world both natural and manmade. The children will firstly look at patterns in nature e.g. animal markings, insects, flowers and leaves. They will then look at manmade forms e.g. in stone, clay, fabric or even computer-generated patterns.

During the spring term, Year 2 will be learning about the topic of 'Food.' They will complete observational drawings of food and they will try drawing on different surfaces. The children will learn about the artist Arcimboldo and they will talk about how his art makes them feel. The children will have the opportunity to create a collaborative piece of work in his style by rearranging fruits and vegetables to create a face.

Finally, in the summer term, the year 2 children will focus on Sculpture. They will make sculptures from Soft Mo modelling dough and they will also use tin foil as a medium in which to create 3D models.