



Aiden 125

Bede 87

Chad 103

Columba 84

Art and DT Focus



Art and DT play a pivotal role in children's learning at St Michaels. Although sometimes confused as the same subject, Art and DT both provide children with a range of different skills and opportunities to be creative, innovative and confident. In Art, children have the opportunity to be inspired by famous artists and aspire to create their own paintings, sculptures, drawings (and more) based on ideas explored in their units. Alternatively in DT, we aim to equip children with the knowledge and skills to design and make products with a true purpose, focusing on overcoming problems while doing this.

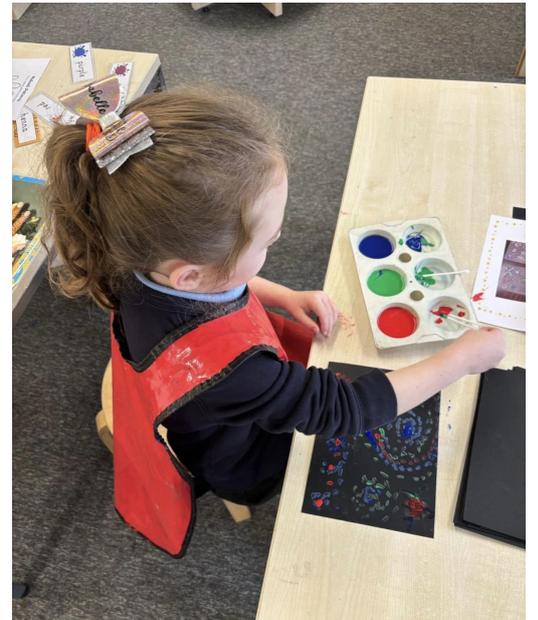


We spoke to some children from each year group about their Art and DT lessons, this is what they had to say:

In Pre-School and Reception, children have lots of opportunities to explore art in creative ways with drawing areas, creative areas and multiple cross curricular activities.



Jack and Isabelle:
"We get to make anything we want and turn our rubbish into creations. We have lots of drawings in our notebooks and we draw lots of characters from books we read. Our favourite thing we did was make a lamp for Dawali out of clay. We decorated them with paint and sequins"



In Year 1, children begin to learn about artists such as Van Gogh and Arcimboldo. In DT, children are introduced to units such as 'mechanisms', 'structures' and 'cooking/nutrition'.

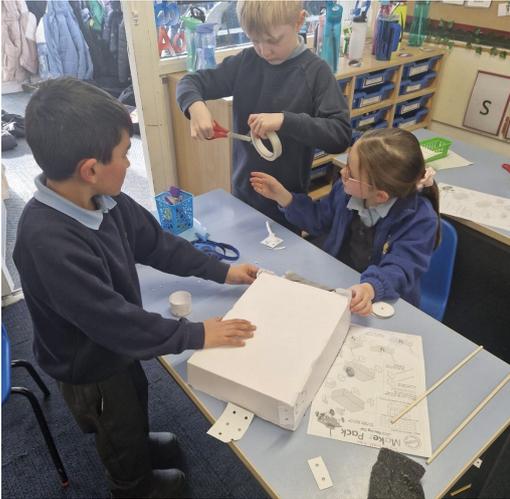


Amelia and Ysabelle:

"In DT we built a big castle together as a class to learn about structures. We added extra things on like battlements and portcullis. We also made some Christmas cards that could move up and down and side to side using a split pin for a pivot. Art is also really fun because we learn about the different seasons, we get a bit messy but that is really fun!"



In Year 2, children build on their knowledge of artists by looking at Kandinsky. They also use their Geography topic about Kenya to inspire them in making thumb pots. In DT, children make Christmas stockings using sewing techniques and functional buggies.



Betsy, Faye and Edward:
"Our favourite thing this year was making our stockings. We sewed it together and put some different decorations on so we could take it home (Faye even used her stocking as a present for her dog!). In DT we put axles and wheels together to make a buggy. It was tricky to make and we made lots of mistakes but we got there in the end! We love everything about creating!"



In Year 3, children take lots of inspiration from History and Geography topics by creating Stone Age art and Greek vases. In DT, children get to create their own healthy snack bars by creating some packaging and the snack itself.



Cainan:
"I like Art, especially when we get to paint. I really enjoyed the Greek vase painting because we had to do multiple steps like papier mache onto a ballon. After we painted it a base colour and added Greek decorations. We were even able to add handles. I really like making things at the end of a unit because it is ours!"



In Year 4 children get to use a range of different resources like mosaic tiles and Modroc to create art pieces based on different artist and topics. In DT, children build upon sewing skills from Year 2 in their textile unit and are introduced to more complex ideas like Pneumatics.

Connie:
"I really enjoy all of the Art units we do and Miss Burt always makes lessons fun even when things aren't as interesting. I got to use the DT skills I learnt in my textiles lessons and use them at home to make things with my grandma. I feel even more confident with my DT skills now."



In Year 5, children get to immerse themselves in more challenging concepts during their Art lessons. Screen printing for example will take multiple steps to design and perfect. In DT, children work more independently to create things like marble runs and even get to make their own savoury scones.



Beau:

"I really enjoy both Art and DT lessons. There is something brilliant about exploring different units in your own way and being creative without just having to do the same as everyone else in class. There are lots of links to real life and it is good to use everyday materials to create something new and functional. I love seeing how everyone has different ideas and being able to take things home to show our parents."



In Year 6, children combine all the skills they have learnt throughout their years in school to create powerful and thought provoking art pieces. Children also get to develop their photography skills using knowledge of positioning and editing. In DT the textile, cooking/nutrition and mechanical systems units inspire children to consider different opportunities as they get older.



Joanna:

"In our Art lessons we find inspiration from different artists and cover a range of different things like painting and making clay sculptures. One of my favourite lessons was when we created some mindfulness drawings using our drawing and shading skills. In DT we are currently learning about pulley systems and controlling how things move. The cooking unit



we did last term was really interactive too and we learnt different cutting techniques before we designed our own Moroccan soup. The class really enjoyed it."

For more information about Art and DT at St Michaels please visit our [website](#). Here are some links you could use at home to encourage Art and DT:



- [Tate Kids](#)
- [Art UK | Home](#)
- [Art For Kids Hub - Art Lessons - How To Draw For Kids](#)
- [STEM Learning](#)
- [Design and Technology - BBC Bitesize](#)
- [Design Tech - Topmarks Search](#)

