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BEAVER ROAD M20

Beaver Road Primary School

Beaver Road
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23rd October 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I would like to share with you the news about what is happening in Art at Beaver Road.

A bit about me!

Hello, my name is Mrs. Reeve. I am the Specialist Art teacher at Beaver Road. I trained as a printed textile designer at Winchester School of Art. As a professional artist, I have worked in a wide range of media and have created lots of artwork for galleries and bespoke commissions. I still create my own artwork and I am excited about a new set of drawings I am producing. Before coming to work at Beaver Road, I taught Art in secondary schools for 16 years. I love teaching Art in the primary setting and I have been amazed to see how creative Beaver Road children are and how they master many of the skills, which are often only learnt when they arrive at secondary school. It excites me to think that the art skills, knowledge and the love of art, which they are building at Beaver Road, will travel with them to Secondary school and beyond.



Art ethos and philosophy

I believe in nurturing independent learners, where ideas and process are just as important as building art skills. Great value is placed on unique and original ideas. Minimal scaffolding is provided to the children to encourage artwork that is unique and individual. Our curriculum design provides all children with the opportunities to make rapid and sustained progress from their starting points, builds self-confidence and empowers self-expression. Children are encouraged to appreciate their own and each other's art and to see that everyone is an artist.

Art provision at Beaver Road

Art taught in Nursery and Reception classes follows the Early Years Framework for learning and development in Expressive Arts and Design. Children are given the opportunity to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities for sharing thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in Art. Children in KS1 and KS2 are introduced to each of the key areas of Art and Design, ensuring full coverage of the National Curriculum. They are introduced to a wide range of mediums, materials and techniques as well as learning the skills of painting, drawing, printing, textiles, digital art, and 3D construction throughout their time at Beaver Road. Children learn about great artists, historical and contemporary, as they move through the school. They learn how to use artists as inspiration for their own artwork. Trips and visiting art experts enhance the children's learning experiences. We are very lucky to have a specialist and well equipped art room at the Junior School where the children showcase their many talents.



Opportunities in Art

The children's work is celebrated and exhibited throughout the school and the wider community. Venues have included Didsbury Library, Home Cafe and The Didsbury Parsonage. The children's artwork is currently on display at The Didsbury Parsonage for the local Primary Schools Exhibition and can also be seen on the Parsonage and Beaver Road website. Children are also given opportunities to take part in competitions such as The Stockport Grammar Portrait Competition.



Beaver Road took part in the 'Bee in the City' event, where our wonderful 'Beeever Road' Bee design was created by the children and exhibited in Didsbury Library as part of the 'Bee in the City' trail. This is now exhibited in the main entrance at First School.

This year, we are excited to be part of The Big Draw Festival, which is a worldwide celebration of drawing! The Big Draw Festival promotes the universal language of drawing as a tool for learning, expression and invention. The Big Draw Festival's major component is encouraging people to get back to the drawing board! The Festival comprises thousands of creative events, activities and workshops across the globe



run by organisations big and small; from individuals to entire cities! Look out for Beaver Road school events and local events, which are organised by the Big Draw. I will be running events until February which I hope as many of you as possible will join in with. See below for the first Beaver Road Family Art Challenge!

I regularly post pictures on Instagram of the artwork the children create, so be sure to follow [@brpsart](#) where you will see the wide variety of skills that the children learn and the high quality of work they create. Further information can also be found on the Art and Design page on the Beaver Road website, which is regularly updated. Children have also had the opportunity to join a lunchtime drawing club and this will restart once we are able to do so given COVID-19.

Autumn half term Art challenge

I would like to invite you all to take part in a collective, whole school and wider school community art project as part of the Big Draw festival. I would like as many people as possible to create a piece of transient, outdoor art and then photograph it. Have a look at the examples below or google for your own ideas. Take a trip to the park, beach or your own garden and with the natural materials that you Seesaw. I will also be setting the task on Seesaw so you can access more information on there. I will then collate the artwork into a large scale artwork for the school and community, which will also be shown online and as part of the Big Draw festival. I can't wait to see the artwork that you all produce. Happy Creating!

Mrs. Reeve
Specialist Art Teacher

