

## **The Arts**

### **Art and Design**

At St Alphege and Sunbeams the Arts curriculum is fully embedded across the curriculum and has an extremely high profile. This has been recognised with the achievement of the Artsmark Gold Award.



We believe that when the children are taught to communicate their feelings and demonstrate skill and knowledge through experiencing and responding to a wide variety of media and cultural experiences; children feel success and happiness, which has a positive effect in all aspects of school life.

The aims of art and design are:

- to enable children to record from first-hand experience and from imagination and to select their own ideas to use in their work;
- to develop creativity and imagination through a range of complex activities;
- to improve the children's ability to control materials, tools and techniques;
- to increase their critical awareness of the roles and purposes of art, craft and design in different times and cultures;
- to develop increasing confidence in the use of visual and tactile elements and materials;
- to foster an enjoyment and appreciation of the visual arts and a knowledge of artists and designers.

Children have extensive opportunities to paint, draw and make models. They are given opportunities to explore textures in natural and man-made form and are encouraged to review their own and others' work.

In order to do this effectively, we reach out to the local community and link with artists and craft people to inspire the children's motivation for art and design both in school, and by visiting exhibitions.

## **Drama**

Drama enables pupils to develop their understanding of the world. They have opportunities to engage in a range of creative and imaginative role play situations, on their own and with others.

Through dramatic activities, pupils can explore a range of cultural and human issues, share ideas and learn to respond to one another and to the adults supporting them in role.

In KS 1 we teach the children how to respond to characters in stories using 're-enacting', 'Hot Seating' and 'Freeze Framing.' This helps children develop dramatic skills and helps them make meaning of texts, music and cultural events and stories.

Acting, dance movement, improvisation and mime are taught through KS1. At St Alphege we have professionally trained dancers and actors on the staff who enable the children to have extremely high quality provision.

At St Alphege drama performance takes place within the classroom, hall outdoors and at the local theatre.

Extra-curricular drama opportunities are strong with a Performing Arts Club (PAC) leading these. A team of staff enable Year 2 children to write, produce and perform a show each year. The performance takes place at the Whitstable Playhouse theatre with lighting and special effects forming a highlight for parents!

Other clubs supporting the Arts through KS 1 are:-

Choir

Art Club

Ocarina Club

Dance Club

Sewing Club

Creative writing Club