

# KIDZART

## AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2025

A fantastic start to the new academic year!



**YEAR 5, GROUP 2 RINGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL IN THE FIELD: NOVEMBER 18 2025**

Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year, 2025/26. It's been a very busy term here at Kidzart. Here's what's been happening.

We began the new academic year welcoming back the children from Ringland Primary School. As previously agreed with the headteacher, Tavis Prewett, one year group is attending the sessions and the Year 4 children from last year returned as Year 5. The class was split into two groups, with each group attending two creative days each.

With the fact they were returners, our art tutor Yvonne explains:

*This term with Ringland School Year 5 has been fantastic. Particularly as they were the same group of children we saw last academic year. With this in mind, the projects were designed to build on what they had already learnt with us on their previous visits. We asked them to really use their imagination for the projects.*

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*For 7 October, Group 1: the children were asked to illustrate an alien planet using different printing techniques and then make the alien that lived there from clay. (Yvonne)*

It was great fun, designing, creating and painting planets and aliens. As you see, there are lots of new and colourful worlds out there, all from the children's individual imaginations.



The clay aliens were all different sizes and shapes and when fired can be painted.



After lunch, the kids were able to go into the field and pick apples from the orchard, with the help of our resident dog, Sweep. It wouldn't be autumn if there weren't apples to pick!



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In the afternoon, our music teacher Lesley introduced the class to ukeleles. As she explains:

*The music sessions this term have been excellent with Ringland. Building on the skills they gained last year, we started by learning a simple chord of C on the ukulele. (Lesley)*



After a fun, full session of ukeleles, the children (and their apples!) were off home.

### 21 October, Group 1

Two weeks later, the group 1 children were back and this time they were given a totally different art project.

As Yvonne explains:

*"A project involving painting and collage to make decorative vases with flowers in was inspired by artists like Vincent Van Gogh and his Sunflowers painting. It was very gratifying to see one little boy using the 'scraffito' method to decorate his vase; something he had learnt about two weeks earlier in our session on printing." (Yvonne)*



Some quotes from the children on this art session:

- "I'm trying to copy another artist – I think it's a Starry Sky" – **William**
- "I'm using 'scraffito' to decorate my vase. We learnt about this at the last Kidzart" – **Noah**
- "We look at the PowerPoint and then we have fun" - **Brooke**



The pictures of vases and flowers are currently on display in the gallery, and they are certainly brightening up the space!



The children couldn't wait to get back to the orchard after lunch and more apples were harvested. As you can see, they were delighted with their second haul!



**'The Apple Haul'**

With the apples carefully stowed away in the kids' bags, it was time for their next session of music. After being introduced to the Ukeleles previously, Lesley took things a step further, by splitting the children into three groups to play in the 'Kidzart Orchestra', as she explains:



*"We created a class orchestra, with some on the ukulele, some on the glockenspiels and some on the drums. All children had a go on all three instruments, accompanying themselves and singing along to 'A Sailor went to Sea, Sea, Sea' and 'Row, Row, Row your boat.'" (Lesley)*

The kids really seemed to enjoy this style of music class and in fact, Brooke said "This is the best day of my life!"

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**"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE TAKE YOUR SEATS FOR THE KIDZART ORCHESTRA!"**

## 4 November, Group 2

In November, it was the turn of the second group. For their first art project of the new academic year, Yvonne gave them something to really spark their imagination: the creation of chimeras. As she explains:

*"The second group did some 3D scrap modelling to make zoo enclosures for the chimera or invented creatures that would live there." (Yvonne)*



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We had some wonderful names for the chimeras (Octoshark! Meowl!) It was great to see how the children gave so much thought to the creation of their zoo enclosures.

Unfortunately, it was a very wet day, which meant the kids couldn't go apple picking. However, there's a good selection of games here, so they made good use of Jenga, and playing cards. Some even took the opportunity to do more drawing.



For the music session, the Kidzart Orchestra was back, but this time with new musicians! Again, they split into groups to learn how to play different parts on the ukeleles, drums and glockenspiels, before coming together to play all the instruments as one piece of music.



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## 18 November, Group 2

The 18th of November marked our final day with Ringland Primary School. This time, they had a very colourful art session to take part in. Yvonne explains:

*"In our final session we looked at the colourful work of artist Yayoi Kusama. The children used three different printing processes to print a colourful cloth banner." (Yvonne)*



The children certainly put their all into creating their printed cloth, as you can see from these photos. It was great to see how different they all were.



For the clay project, they made plates which were decorated with the same dots and swirls inspired by Yayoi Kusama.



Teaching assistant, Kathy said *'it was amazing to see the level of concentration by the children when making their decorative plates out of clay, using circles and curves within their design.'*

Thankfully, for this group, after lunch it was dry, so they got the chance to go into the orchard to pick apples and play ball with Sweep.



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In the afternoon, it was another session as the Kidzart Orchestra, picking up where they left off from last time. Lesley speaks for us all when she says *"The progress was amazing and it was uplifting to see the children having so much fun and achieving so much. They left the sessions with smiles on their faces, and one pupil was heard to comment "This has been the best afternoon ever!". What a result!!"*



We have all thoroughly enjoyed having Ringland Primary back again this year and to directly observe how they have grown in confidence. This is what Kidzart is all about. The children have also clearly enjoyed themselves as these quotes show:

*"Kidzart is very unique"* – **Eira**

*"Kidzart makes me feel calm"* – **Mya**

*"It is very fun!"* – **Scarlett**

*"I love the brownies!"* – **Cody**

*"I love learning new skills"* – **Gabriella**

*"I like all the different stuff"* – **Ffion**

*"I like it because it is fun"* – **Matus**

*"It is the best day of my life. I like using my imagination"* – **Dwani**

The head teacher, Tavis Prewett has previously said of Kidzart:

*"The Kidzart Project has been a huge support for us, here at Ringland Primary School. We recognize the impact of engagement in opportunities such as this on the children who have been taking part, and their response has been incredibly enthusiastic. Their visits provide an opportunity for escapism in an environment which they would otherwise be unlikely to explore."*

The outcome of working with Ringland directly corresponds to our mission statement, as you can see:

**Our registered charity, Kidzart is dedicated to providing FREE creative days for primary school children from under-resourced areas in Monmouthshire and neighbouring counties, where access to the creative arts is limited, and to giving them the chance to experience the potential offered by these subjects. Once imagination is sparked, free-thinking, problem-solving, and confidence can follow. Working in small groups with our skilled staff and volunteers, the children also learn the value of kindness and generosity to each other.**

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This brings us to the end of the autumn term. In the spring, we look forward to welcoming back the children from Crindau school, on the following dates:

- 3 & 24 February
- 10 & 24 March

In the meantime, we would like to give thanks to all our wonderful staff and volunteers who help to make the creative days work so well for the kids, and to make **learning** fun.

## If you want to get involved:

If you would like to know how you can get involved, you can do so in the following ways:

- Volunteer on Kidzart days: no experience is necessary, just a willingness to help the children with their projects, under our tutors' guidance
- By becoming a member: this costs just £25 per year but really helps us run the charity. Visit our website at [www.kidzart.uk](http://www.kidzart.uk) to find out more.
- Following our Facebook page, **Kidzart Foundation**. By liking and sharing our posts, you help us get our message out. Never underestimate the power of an emoji!
- By making a donation: you can donate through our website.

Finally, thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter; hopefully you found it enjoyable! Please pass it on to anyone you think would be interested.

We would like to wish you an enjoyable festive season, and a Happy New Year.

**Best Wishes  
From Val Welham  
And ALL THE TEAM AT KIDZART**

**'FROM IMAGINATION TO CREATIVITY'**