

KIDZART

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2024

Happy Kidzart Creative Day in the rare Autumn Sunshine



AUTUMN TERM YEAR 4 KIDS FROM RINGLAND SCHOOL NEWPORT TAKING LUNCH TIME BREAK IN THE FIELD

KIDZART is a registered charity dedicated to providing **FREE** creative days for primary school children from under-resourced areas in Monmouthshire and neighbouring counties where their access to the creative arts is limited and to give them the chance to experience the potential offered by these subjects. Once imagination is sparked, free-thinking and 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.

Our pilot year with children from 3 inner city Newport primary schools was a great success and we were able to reach out to 48 children who each visited us 3 times during the year. We have all learned a great deal during this past year and have now embarked on the second academic year with a greater appreciation of how much our work is valued and needed. We shall in this current year be seeing 150 children from 3 different inner city Newport schools which the Director of

WELHAM KIDZART FOUNDATION

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Education for that city has recommended to us as those which have the children who would most be able to benefit from our creative educational days where we concentrate on the visual arts, music and the performing arts. Sadly, these subjects are limited in the curriculum, but we believe passionately that they are essential to every child's education. Kidzart enables children to discover their individuality through the Arts and to feel confident in expressing themselves.

Comments received from the head teachers of our pilot year schools were very encouraging:

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you on behalf of the school for the wonderful opportunities you have provided to both the children who worked with you and your staff, as well as our own staff members. They have all greatly enjoyed these experiences. (Millbrook – head teacher)

Thank you for the wonderful opportunities you have afforded our children this year. They have all (including staff) enjoyed them immensely. (Ifor Hael – head teacher)



This year our 3 schools were each given 4 days throughout the academic year so could choose which of their children they felt would most benefit from the creative days with us. The head teacher of the first school to visit this year, Ringland Primary, Newport chose to concentrate on one whole year group of Year 4 to come to us with half the class coming on the first visit and the other half on the second visit and these same groups will then visit us a second time.

Here are some of the comments from the children and the teacher who came with them on their first visit to us in November:

(Alice Powell – teacher Ringland)

Our children loved having the opportunity to immerse themselves in the art process- especially with the curriculum being as full as it is, time in school doesn't always give us space to dedicate to this type of activity.

Elijah (Ringland) - it was good to get messy and have all of the tools around. I got to spend time bending all of the clay to make it look good!

Alfie (Ringland)- I liked looking at all of the art. And all of the ladies were really nice and gave me lots of food!

Isba (Ringland) - the music lessons were good fun. I liked using the glockenspiel and didn't know I could make music.



It was obvious from the start that year 4 were very excited to visit us at Kidzart. It was quite infectious. They produced some lovely, colourful collage sun pictures based on the work of contemporary artist Clare Young. We continued with the theme of the sun and designed and then made clay suns to hang on the wall. Each child chose their own circular templates from a selection of sizes to base their design on, which gave rise to a greater variety of designs. The sun theme was very much desired after all the rain

we had been having and it did the trick as we were rewarded with a beautiful day that allowed us to go outside at break time. On another note, we were honoured to be the first ever trip out of school for one little boy, a big step and a mile stone for him. (Yvonne – Art Teacher)



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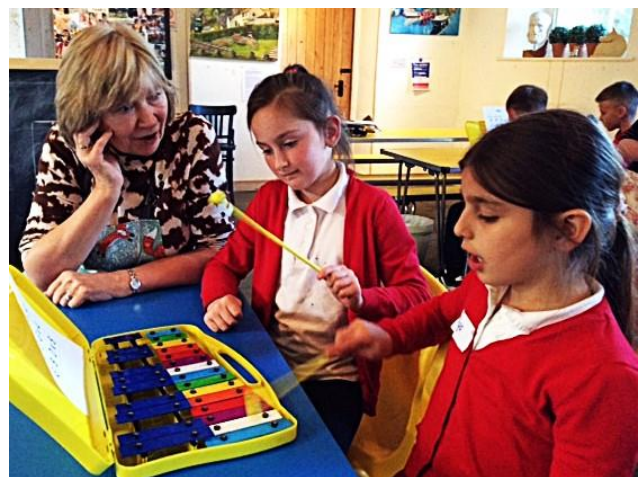
WONDERFUL AND HEALTHY FOOD

We have healthy snacks available throughout the day and a hot lunch around 12.30pm - such an important part of the day for the children- never running out of energy or enthusiasm and their love of learning.



MUSIC FOR THE AFTERNOON

It is always lovely to meet children from a new school and to share an afternoon of music. The pupils were enthusiastic and engaged fully in all activities on offer! We sang songs, played with boomwackers, and then created music using the Charity's new Glockenspiels. It was a lot of fun and the children left the session smiling, having thoroughly involved themselves in the afternoon's activities. It is great to see all the children immersing themselves in the music - and there is a sense of achievement for them all as they realise that they have all got talent and an ability that they didn't know they had! (Lesley Chapman – Music Teacher)



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We are pleased to welcome Becci who joined us in September as our Administrator in the office and to have her comments on the day:

On a normal day, the office is very quiet. However, this was definitely not the case on my first ever Kidzart day! It was so refreshing to hear the lively chatter coming from all the children in the studio. At some point in the morning, I abandoned the office as I was dying to see what the children were up to; they were creating mini works of art in clay, that's for sure. In the afternoon, I listened to them immersed in their music session, which was lovely. At 3pm, the children left, and the Arts Centre was silent once again. What a fabulous day. (Becci – Kidzart Administrator)

I would like to thank all our wonderful staff and volunteers who help us so much and are so important to us. Please get in touch if you would like to be involved in any way or are considering becoming a member. We shall be pleased to hear from you. There are lots of details on our website www.kidzart.uk and please forward this newsletter to anyone you know who may be interested in our work. You can also now find us on Facebook at Kidzart Foundation so please if you are on Facebook become a follower.



**BEST WISHES FOR
A HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND CREATIVE NEW YEAR
FROM VAL WELHAM AND
ALL THE TEAM AT KIDZART**

**'FROM IMAGINATION TO
CREATIVITY'**

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