



**Staplehurst School Newsletter No.08  
- Winter Term 2023**

## A message from the Senior Team



Dear Parents and Carers

We hope this news term finds you in good health and high spirits. We are thrilled to welcome all our children and their families back to Staplehurst for another exciting term of learning, growth, and fun! We trust you had a restful and enjoyable break and are ready for the challenges and adventures the new term will bring.

### **A Welcome to New Staff**

We are delighted to introduce our new teaching assistants who will be working in EYFS and Year 1: Miss Siseman, Miss Smith, Miss Woodhams and Mrs Orford who is based in our office. They bring with them a wealth of experience and enthusiasm that will greatly benefit our children; I know that we will all make them feel very welcome.

**Supporting Your Child's Learning:** by Monday 6th November you will receive the curriculum overview for your child's learning this term. Please take the opportunity to review this and if anything is unclear, please talk to your class teacher. In addition, this term we celebrate world week: the theme this year is Global Citizenship. Teachers have planned meaningful opportunities to enrich your child's learning experience beyond our normal curriculum offer.

**Key Dates:** this is a busy and exciting term. Please make a note the important key dates that we have planned.

Thank you for entrusting us with the education of your child. We look forward to a successful term filled with growth, achievements, and memorable moments. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Miss Davenport and the Senior Leadership Team

## Pride Certificates: 03/11/2023

Class	Name	Reason
EYG	Elijah Kudjoe	Since starting school, Elijah has impressed us with the respect he shows towards others. He uses his manners when speaking to adults and other children and he is always enthusiastic. Well done Elijah!
EYF	Buddy Adams	Buddy has had a positive attitude towards all of his learning this week. He is showing independence and positivity especially with his writing. Buddy produced an excellent label this week for his model using a sound mat and his phonics knowledge. Well done Buddy!
1A	Rikku Edmonds	Rikku is a polite, respectful and hard-working member of our class. She is always thoughtful of other children in our year group and is supportive of children on her table when they face a challenge. Her unwavering passion and enthusiasm for learning has helped her to create some wonderful pieces of work and she sets an impeccable example of STAR in every lesson. Rikku, you set a wonderful example to your peers – keep it up!
1C	Dymtro Slipchenko	Dima has a great attitude to learning. He consistently shows respect to all in the class. Dima as worked exceptionally hard on his number bonds and now has quick recall of lots of number facts to 10. Well done!
1FS	Eleanor Hughes	Ella consistently shows respect and is a great role model in Hockney Class. She works well with all of her peers and will support others with their learning. Ella can always be relied upon to set a great example of behaviour and works hard in every task. Well done, Ella!
2C	Ella Pascoe	Ella has been a true delight to have in class. Every morning she welcomes the class with a beaming smile. She always gets involved with our lessons and has been a fantastic partner to those on her table. Well done Ella, you are a superstar!
2K	Daniel Smith	Daniel is a pleasure to have in 2K. He is always polite and respectful to his teachers. It is lovely to be greeted by his "good morning" and smiling face each day. Well done Daniel on your increasing positive attitude towards school and learning, keep it up!
3KS	Emily Lavis	Emily consistently demonstrates a positive attitude in all of her work. She is respectful to children and adults alike and is a credit to the class and school. Well done Emily
3G	Poppy Wilkinson	Poppy has shown resilience in all aspects of her learning this week. She has engaged well in all class discussions and has always tried her best, especially in maths. Poppy has also been exceptionally helpful and respectful towards peers and adults. Well done Poppy!
4W	Alisha Rose Brown	Alisha Rose has a fantastic attitude to learning and this week has shown that by joining in enthusiastically in all of our lessons. In Science, she thought carefully about the properties of materials and contributed to class discussions. She is always respectful and polite and a great role model. Well done!
4F	Sophie Beaumont-Collins	Sophie demonstrates our STAR behaviours at all points throughout the school day. She is consistently respectful towards all members of the school community and her dedication, kindness, and hard work have not gone unnoticed. Well done, Sophie!
5R	Gus Weiss	This week Gus has been more confident to put his hand up and answer questions. Gus always works hard and concentrates on the work that is provided. Gus always listens and follows instructions given and asks when he is unsure on what is expected of him. Well done!
5C	Reggie Edwards	This week Reggie has shown a positive approach to his learning. Within lessons he has been very keen to answer questions and complete his work. Reggie has been polite and respectful to staff during lessons. A good week, well done!
6S	Chloe Taylor	This week Chloe has demonstrated a high level of respect to everyone around her and has displayed a fantastic attitude towards all aspects of her learning, but particularly in art. Chloe recreated a portrait using different mediums paying close attention to detail and creating areas of light and dark. Well done Chloe!
6JS	Sophie Staines	This week Sophie has shown an outstanding level of respect towards all of her peers. She has demonstrated this through holding doors, using her manners and always greeting people with a beaming smile. This, whilst also maintaining, unrivalled effort in all subject areas! Keep it up Sophie!

## Communication: stay informed and get involved

### Stay Informed

Stay connected with Staplehurst by visiting our website, following us on social media, and signing up for our scopay to receive all key reminders and updates.

### Get Involved

We value your participation in our school community. If you would like to get involved in the PTA, volunteer, or have ideas for school activities, please contact our Parent-Teacher Association.

## Parental Engagement: support for parents and carers



Based on the feedback received through both our parent forum and last year's drop-ins, we have shaped our support for parents and carers to support the needs raised. We value parental input as it helps us shape and tailor our sessions and opportunities to support your children to achieve. We will be focusing on the following areas and offering the following opportunities over the next two terms:

### Term 2

Art subject support video - **Week beginning 6.11.23**

Maths subject support video **Week beginning 20.11.23**

Parent forum - **1.12.23**

Open discussion afternoon - Relationships and Sex and Health Education **27.11.23**

Parents into read - **(Weekly)**

We welcome feedback from these opportunities and look forward to supporting you at home this year.

Many Thanks

Mr. Williams-Jones

## Class Assemblies

We will be starting our class assembly programme for the year in term two this year. We would like to invite parents/carers in to share in the wonderful learning that has been taking place. The assembly schedule is as follows:

**Term 2 – KS2- Year 4** (Ancient Civilizations) – **Friday 1st December 2023** at 9.00 am in the junior hall.

**KS2 - Year 6** (Kingdom of Benin) **Friday 17th November 2023** at 9.00 am in the junior hall.

**Term 3 – KS2 - Year 5** (Medicine through time) - **Friday 2nd February 2024** at 9.00 am in the junior hall.

**KS1- Year 1** (History of shopping) - **Friday 9th February 2024** at 9.00 am in the junior hall.

**Term 4 – KS2 - Year 3** (Stone-Age) - **Friday 22nd March** at 9.00 am in the junior hall.

**KS1 - Year 2** (Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole) **Friday 15th March** at 9.00 am in the junior hall

EYFS: Awaiting Date.

We look forward to welcoming you in to school.

Many Thanks

Mr Williams-Jones

## EYFS 2024 Open Mornings for September 2024



If your child is due to start **Reception in September 2024** Join us on one of our open mornings to see why Staplehurst School is the perfect place for your child to grow and flourish.

**EYFS OPEN MORNINGS: for September start 2024**

**Wednesday 8th November**

**Wednesday 15th November**

Please see our website for further details and to book: [EYFS Open Mornings - September start 2024 \(office.com\)](#)

### Attendance

Whole school attendance for this week was 93.2%



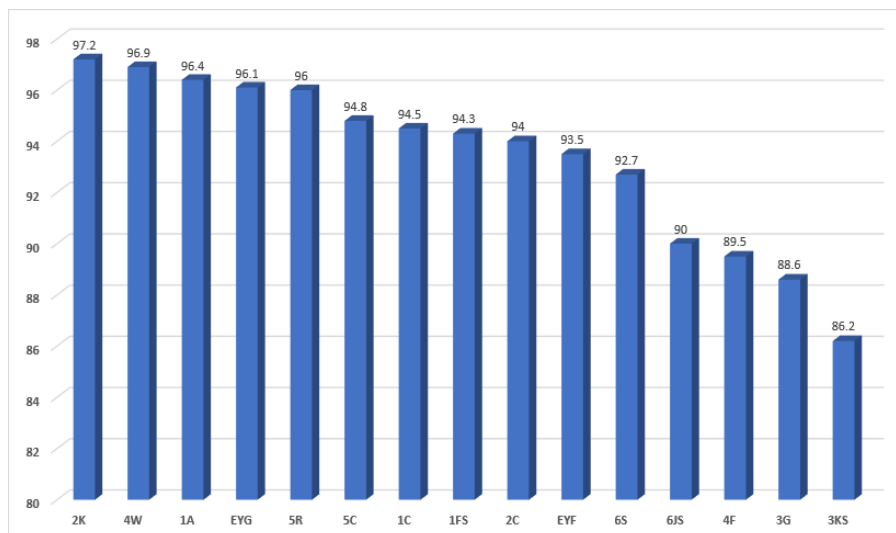
**Whole School Attendance *from September* is: 94.6%**

**National School Attendance is currently: 95.3%**

**Punctuality Reminder: Did you know that 5 minutes late each day is equivalent to 3 days lost, 10 minutes late each day is equal to 6.5 days lost, and 15 minutes late each day, 10 days lost. Please ensure your child arrives on time to prevent them being marked as late and missing their phonics/reading lesson.**

**Please remember to report your child's absence by 8:30am, either by calling the school office or emailing [attendance@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk) - Please also let us know if your child is due to attend an after school activity club so we can cancel their provision.**

**REMINDER - Pick-up time at the end of the day is 3:15pm. Please let us know, by emailing your child's year group, if there are going to be any changes to your child's expected collection arrangements. For example: the person collecting, unless they are already on the School Pick-Up list. If your child has not been collected by 3:30pm, they will be taken to After School Club and a charge may be incurred.**



Well done to 2K, the weekly winners with 97.2%

What attendance means to us -

100% - Excellent attendance

97% - Good attendance

95% - Satisfactory attendance

Below 95% - Unsatisfactory attendance

Below 90% - Persistently absent

Below 50% - Severely absent

## Thank you



We are delighted to share that our library has received a generous donation—a brand new Toniebox along with a selection of Tonie figures! A Toniebox is a popular audio player designed specifically for children. It's a digital listening device that utilises figurines called Tonies to play audio content. Each Tonie represents a specific character or story, containing pre-recorded audio material such as children's songs, stories, or educational content.

To experience the magic, a child simply places a Tonie on top of the Toniebox, and the device will play the corresponding audio content. The Toniebox is designed to be intuitive and child-friendly, enabling our young readers to enjoy audio stories and music independently. We have kindly been donated eight figurines, providing a variety of content for our library visitors and look forward to hopefully growing our collection.

A massive thank you to Mrs Ennis for organising this kind donation from Tonies!



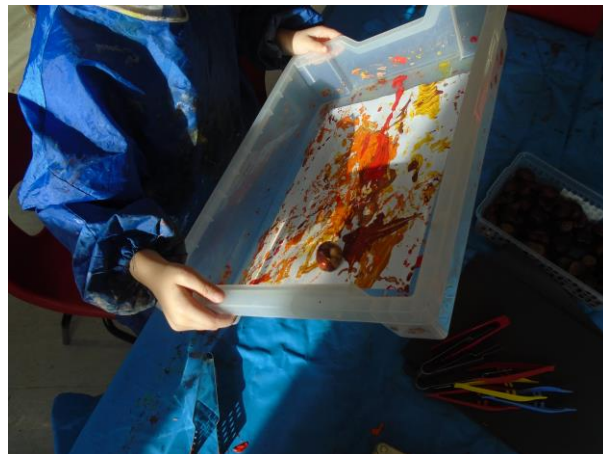
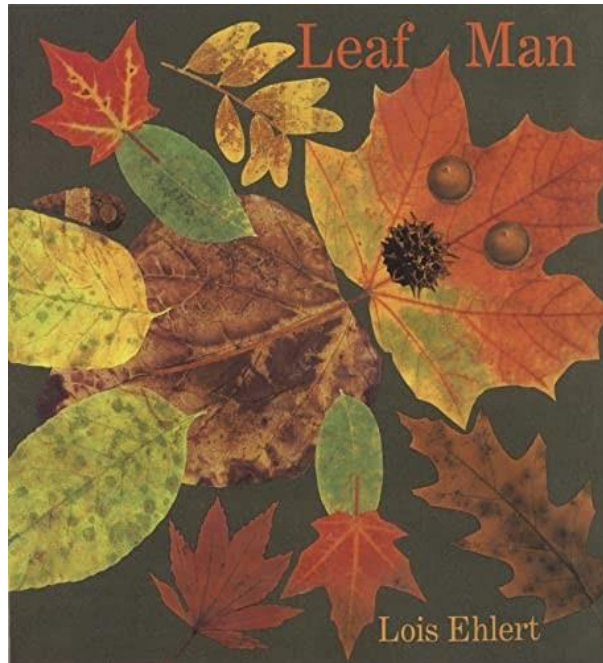


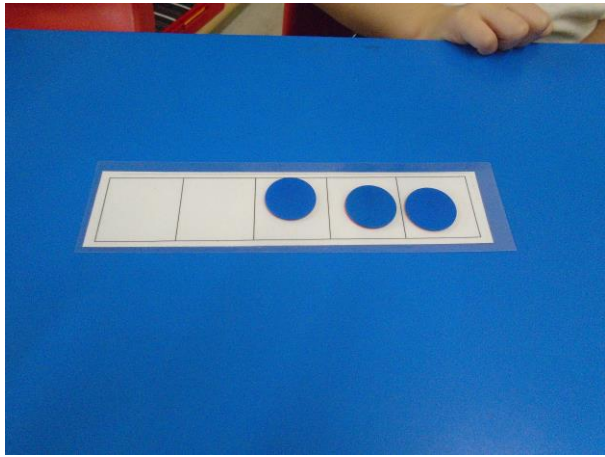
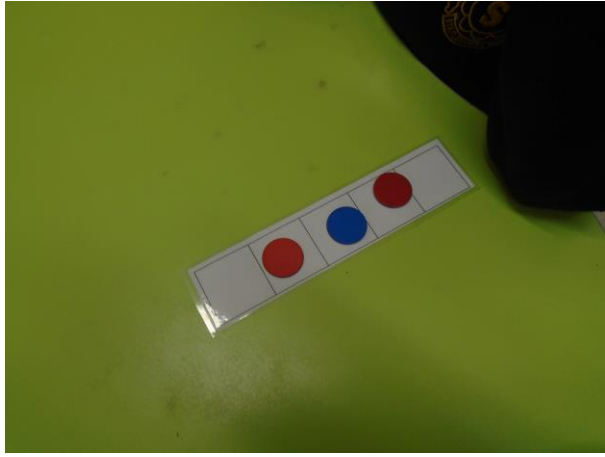
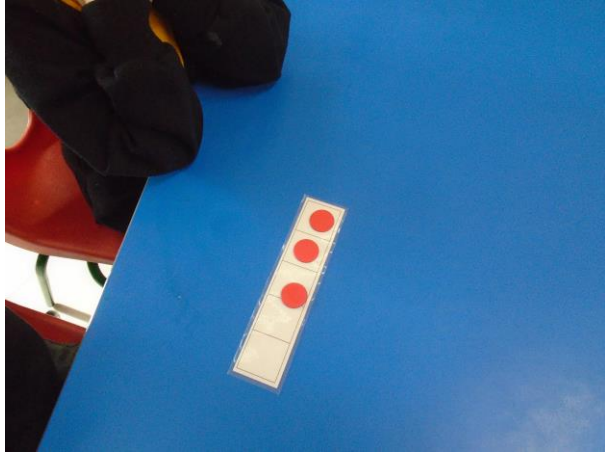
## EYFS



This week we have enjoyed the story, Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert. From this we developed our understanding of the four seasons, focusing on Autumn. We collected different leaves and used them to create some lovely artwork. Some children chose to use leaves to print, others used wax crayons to make leaf rubbings, exclaiming it was just like magic seeing the leaf prints emerging. As well as using leaves, we also used conkers to mix Autumn colours, rolling them in a tray. To illustrate the changing seasons, we used cotton buds to create pointilism trees, dotting the different colours from each season onto tree outlines.

In maths this week, we have continued to explore numbers 1,2 and 3. We used the Gingerbread Man and the Enormous Turnip stories to introduce one more and one less, using the characters to illustrate the amounts. We also introduced 5-frames and double sided counters to understand the composition of numbers to 3.







## Year 1



*1 - We are so impressed with how the children have returned to school after the half term break full of enthusiasm and ready to learn. In geography this week we have been learning about continents and made a map jigsaw.*





*2 - We understand the importance of exploring time to the children in year 1. The transition from reception to year 1 can be a big jump and we have decided to continue exploring time for children into term 2. This is where children learn through play. They select from a range of carefully planned play opportunities to extend their learning.*



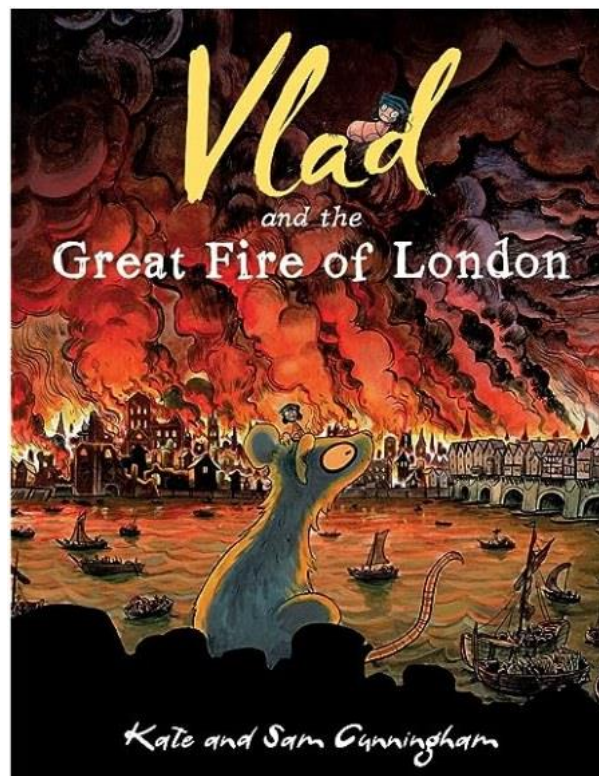
*3 - This term our role play area is a vets as this links with our science topic of 'animals including humans'.*



## Year 2



We are so impressed with how well Year 2 have returned after the half term. The children are already showing such enthusiasm for our new History topic of 'The Great Fire of London' and they can't wait to become historians and continue discovering more!



4 - Our new text for English is 'Vlad and the Great Fire of London'. The children have made predictions for what they think the plot will be, based on the front cover and blurb. We have also worked in groups to sequence the key events of the story.

## Reading Book Reminder

The children are able to change their reading book once they have finished it (now not on specific days). They will do this independently, however an adult will be checking and keeping track of how many books have been read - don't forget we're working towards our '30 reads' prize at the end of this half term!

## Year 3



### Design brief:

A new Christmas shop is opening in the shopping centre. They are trying to source stock to sell in their shop. The company have asked us to create them a range of Christmas cards that they could sell. The cards have to celebrate Christmas, have at least one moving element and can have any design on the front.

Year 3 have received a design brief and are now starting the journey of fulfilling this brief.

They will be considering their target audience as well researching examples of other cards with moving elements.

Along the way they will be thinking about the different types of mechanisms that will allow the card to have a moving element and learn how to make these mechanisms to use in their design.

All of this in time for Christmas. It will be a busy term in year 3!

## Year 4



## YEAR 3

It has been wonderful to see our Year 4s dive into their new 'rivers' topic with so much enthusiasm this week.

During English, both classes have been inspired by Grahame Baker-Smith's "Rhythm of the Rain" to write exciting, expanded noun phrases.

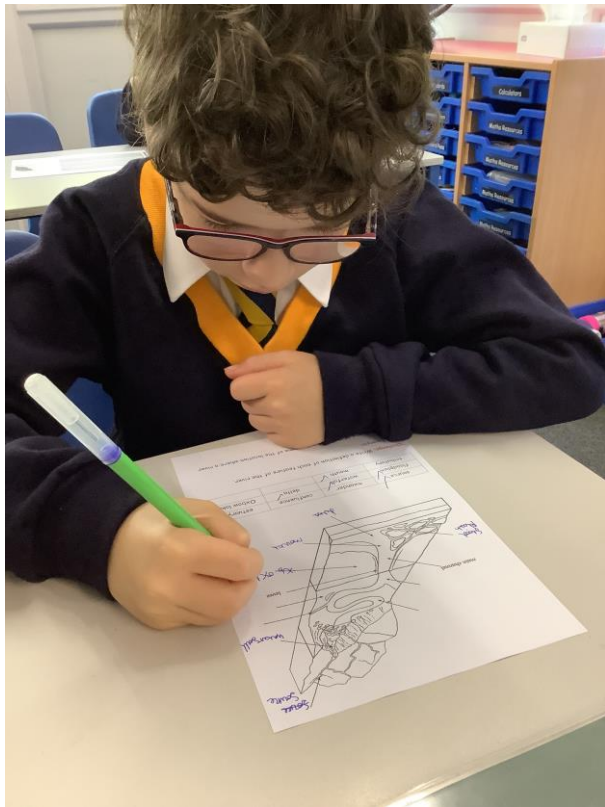
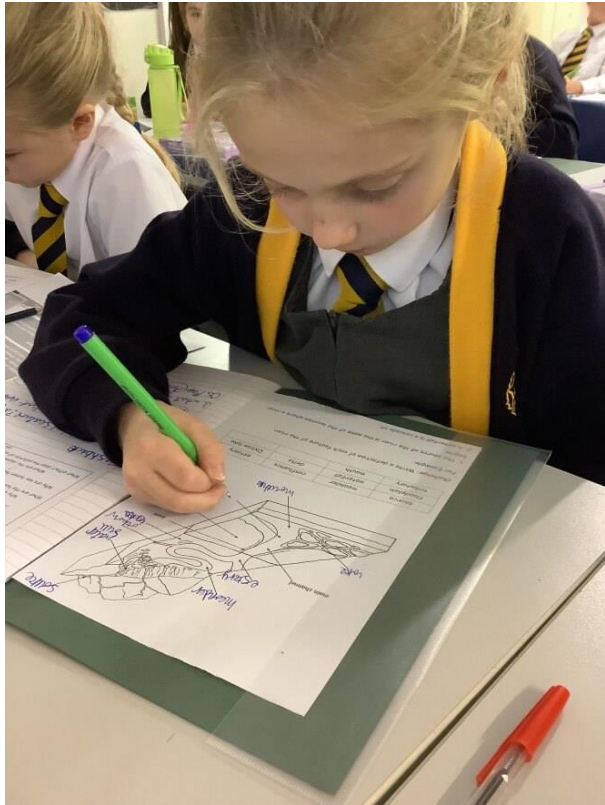
During Geography, the children have been uncovering the fascinating features of rivers including sources, springs, valleys, meanders, waterfalls, estuaries and floodplains.

In PE, we have been practicing our footwork by using different techniques to move across the floor. We will use these skills later this term to play football.











## Year 5

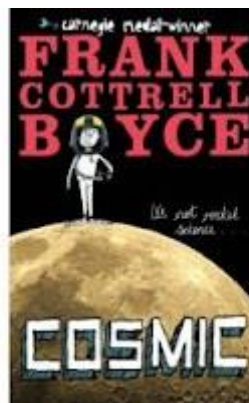


# YEAR 5

Year 5 have started the new term in English by beginning their study of the novel *Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell-Boyce. They will be using this story to write a persuasive advert and a persuasive email. This week they have considered different persuasive devices including emotive language, repetition, rhetorical questions and alliteration.

This term children will be learning about forces as part of their scientific learning. This week they have begun by learning about Sir Isaac Newton.

We concluded last term by visiting The Science Centre at Hertsmonceux in East Sussex to enhance our learning of Space as part of our science learning. We also had an art day where we used printing techniques to create pictures inspired by Peter Caulfield and Vicky Oldfield.









## Year 6

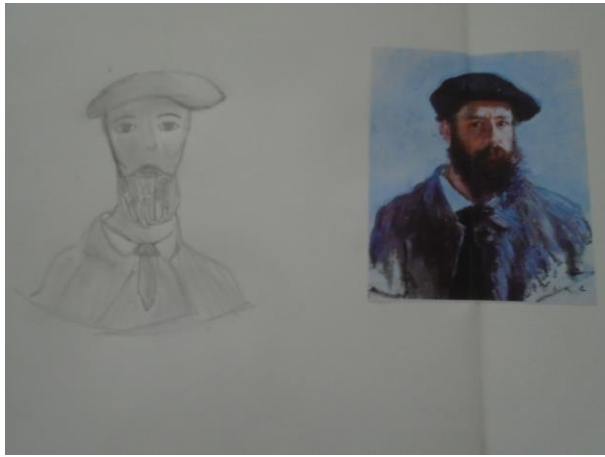


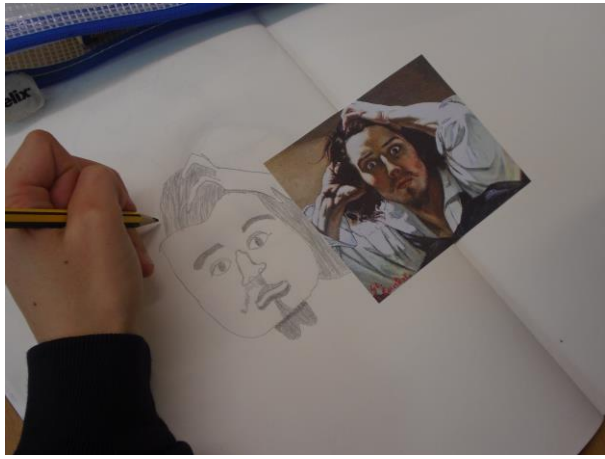
This week Year 6 began their new art topic - portraiture. We began the lesson thinking about what portraiture is and looking at some examples, identifying some similarities and differences between the pieces. We then looked at how light and dark can be created in a drawing and the children spent some time using pencil and oil pastels or charcoal to recreate an existing portrait.

*"We have been looking at portraiture, a portrait is a representation of a person. We have used charcoal, pastels and pencil to recreate portraits." - Shayan*

*"To create light a dark areas in my drawing I went over certain areas with my pencil to create darker shadows and smudged it to blend lighter and darker areas." - Paige*









## Online Support Services

### KENT RESILIENCE HUB

[Kentresiliencehub.org.uk](https://www.kentresiliencehub.org.uk)

A resource that helps young people, parents and carers, staff and practitioners to understand emotional wellbeing and resilience.



### SEND INFORMATION HUB

[www.kent.gov.uk/education-andchildren-special-educational-needs](http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-andchildren-special-educational-needs)

Guidance and support for parents of children with special educational needs.



### MIND ED

<https://www.minded.org.uk/>

Free educational resource to support children, young people and adults with mental health.



### AUTISM EDUCATION TRUST

[www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk](http://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk)

Resources and support for parents and schools for children and young people with autism.

