

December 2023

ART NEWSLETTER



Aisha A – year 9

(Christmas Decoration challenge winner)

Welcome to the 3rd edition of the Art Newsletter. We are delighted to share the work of our very own KECHG artists, winter craft ideas, teacher interviews and much more.

Happy Holidays!

Raymond Briggs

Raymond Briggs is a British illustrator, author, and graphic novelist, born on January 18, 1934, in London, England. He is best known for his works in children's literature and has received numerous awards for his contributions. After sharpening his skills at the Wimbledon School of Art and the Slade School of Art, he dabbled in advertising before hitting it big in the world of children's book illustration. He even taught illustration to budding artists at Brighton College of Art! His first big break came when he illustrated *The Mother Goose Treasury* in 1966, a book of nursery rhymes that earned him a Kate Greenaway medal! From that moment on, he has been the talk of the town, a beloved author-illustrator with an innovative and whimsy flair.



By Jaza L - Year 9



It was no surprise that his first three books were colourful comic strips instead of the usual text and imagery. His "Father Christmas" duo (1973 and 1975) was a hilarious story about a grumpy Santa who could not stand the snow, this won Briggs his second Greenaway award. The books were later turned into a film. Followed by "Fungus the Bogeyman" (1977), a funny peek into the life of a blue-collar bogeyman. Finally, Briggs decided to take a break from text, and he then illustrated "The Snowman" (1978), an entirely wordless book. It was a hit and won him the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award. The animated adaptation, narrated by the legendary David Bowie, was nominated for an Academy Award and became a British TV classic, shown every Christmas except 1984. In 2012, the 30th anniversary was celebrated by airing the sequel, "The Snowman and the Snowdog" .

FESTIVE CRAFT



What you will need:

- . A Newspaper
- . Paint or pens
- . A black marker
- . Glue and scissors
- . A sheet of paper (any colour)

Newspaper Santa

1. First, get your newspaper and cut out a triangle, two rectangles, a small circle (for the hat), a semicircle (for the body), a square (for the beard), a blob and a small oval (for the nose).
2. Now, take your triangle, fold it from the top, and stick it down on the paper (which can be of any colour). Then take a rectangle and stick it at the bottom of the triangle.
3. Now get your small circle and stick it over the fold of the triangle to make the hat. Then for the body, get the square and cut the bottom half in strips about 1cm long but don't cut the paper off.
4. Take the blob and stick it on the top half of the beard (for Santa's face).
5. Stick down the oval (the nose).
6. Then get the second rectangle (for the moustache) and stick it down from the middle only, under the oval.
7. Now draw his facial expressions.
8. Then stick your semicircle (for the body) under your beard's strips.
9. Lastly, add some colour to your Newspaper Santa.

You can use the picture for reference image or you can choose your own colours, it's up to you! If you are feeling extra creative, you can draw something in the background such as snow or candy canes.

By Aashna A – Year 7

Pattern:

Chn = chain

Hdc = half double crochet

Fo = fasten off

- Chn 51
- Work 3 hdc from first chain in hook
- Work 3 hdc in every chain across (150)
- Fo and knot ends together and cut off
- Line out, straighten out the wreath
- Take some yarn or string and weave through the centre of the wreath.
- Tie a knot together and add a bow!



Crochet wreath

Here is a simple flat-based design with the pattern:

This is a very easy pattern and only consists of two rows.

VIDEO: https://youtube.com/shorts/ONd1HG6sWrk?si=6v5IXDYL_K6fqkQc

Happy holidays!

By Zaara H – year 7

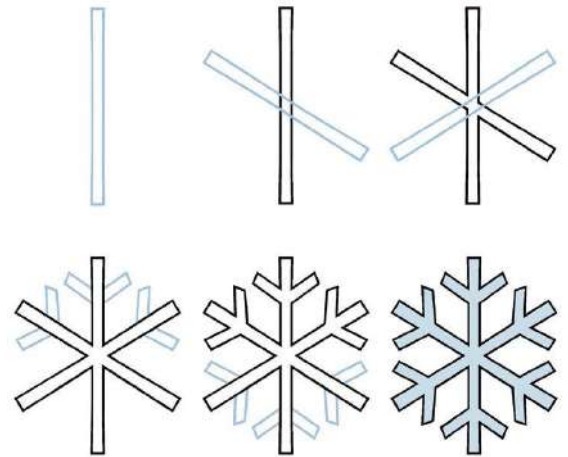
❄️ DOODLE THIS HOLIDAY ❄️

Christmas holidays. Enjoy!

* Snowflake *

1. Start by drawing a small circle in the middle of your paper. This will be the centre of your snowflake.
2. Draw three lines that cross through the centre of the circle. Make sure the lines are evenly spaced so they split the circle into six equal sections.
3. Now, draw a smaller line coming off each end of the original lines. These should be at an angle, creating a “V” shape at the end of each line. Repeat this process for each of the six lines.
4. Finally, you can add additional details to your snowflake as you wish.

How to Draw a Snowflake



By Sathviga G – Year 7

A YEAR 7 STUDENT GETS CRAFTY WITH CROCHET THIS CHRISTMAS!



Savannah S – year 7

“Crochet can be a really good hobby since you can basically take yarn and a hook with you wherever you go. You will feel accomplished once you have finished something. It can be hard at the start but it will get easier” , said Savannah.

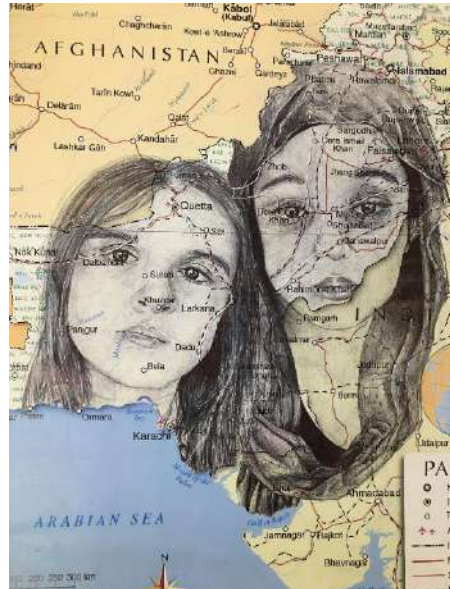
Savannah started crocheting a month ago and mainly crochets stuffed animals.

By Zaara H – year 7

ARTIST OF THE HALF TERM



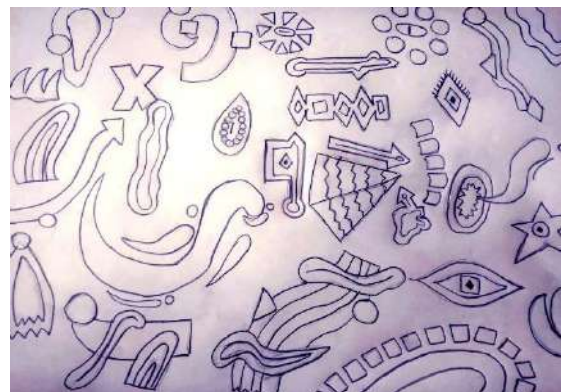
Fine Art - Maryam R – year 9



Fine Art – Rem B – year 11



Graphics – Mary P – year 11



Graphics – Zahra A – year 7

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

Art:

Year 7

Year 7 have currently been working on shell drawings and mixed media studies, exploring mark making to develop textures and tones.

Year 8

Year 8 are exploring mono printing and have been researching the artists Delita Martin and Shephard Fairey.

Year 9

Year 9 have been working on their artist research about Paul Wright, and have recently completed their Paul Wright artist copies. They are now moving onto artist responses.

Graphics:

Year 7:

Year 7 have been working on their Halloween phone case project. They are currently drawing body parts inspired by graphic designer Seb Niark in order to help them invent their own scary creature design.

Year 8:

Year 8 are working on their Tourism Architectural Skyline T-Shirt project - currently using Adobe Illustrator to digitally draw their own skyline representing a country of their choice. They will later be looking at the work of artist Michael Tompsett to help inspire their skyline fill colours.

Year 9

Year 9 are working on their Animal conservation project - inspired by artists Oscar Wilson and Clare Youngs. They are using Adobe Illustrator to create an outline of their chosen animal - or even plant!

By Ishita M and Ameera S – year 9



TEACHER INTERVIEWS

By Ishita M and Ameera S – year 9

MRS BOWDEN (Fine Art Teacher)

Q: “What are your creative hobbies and how did they begin?”

A: Other than the obvious (painting, drawing etc), my creative hobbies are very much focused around the home. I love interior design, anything from renovating houses to upcycling decorative objects, such as vases, lamps and of course Christmas decorations. I love giving old things a new lease of life.

Q: “Who inspires you?”

A: Shea McGee, best known for her show on Netflix "Dream home makeover", is definitely a huge inspiration of mine. She kick-started her career, as an interior designer, by going to night school to study interior design and styling shelves in her clients homes. She is now a successful business woman, designing interiors for multimillion dollar homes. Her book "Make Life Beautiful" is a great read and might be an inspiration to anyone who would like to turn their creative hobby into a career.

Q: “How do your hobbies make you feel?”

A: Having a creative project on the go, big or small, allows my mind to stay positive and focused.

Q: “What made you realise you wanted to *teach* art?”

A: I knew I wanted to be a teacher from a very young age. It really is a privilege to be able to share the subject I love with so many young people.

Q: “How do you overcome mistakes?”

A: I try to think of mistakes as an opportunity to learn and grow as a person.

Controversial question:

Q: *When should you start playing Christmas music?*

A: After Ms Stait's birthday!!

MISS TIDD (Graphics Teacher)

Q: What are your creative hobbies and how did they begin?

A: Designing and making jewellery - I initially trained as a Jewellery designer and Goldsmith in 2005 (and ran my own business) before I later trained in the subject of Design & Technology and Graphic Design.
I like to draw a lot digitally and I like to make things!

Q: What inspires you?

A: Everything around me - particularly patterns, nature and inspiration that I see or photograph when I go travelling - I love travelling to different countries!

Q: When do you like to create?

A: At the moment, I don't have much time for my hobbies as I am currently re-decorating my house! But to me that sort of counts as creating as I am slowly transforming rooms every day after work!

Q: How do your hobbies make you feel?

A: Content and fulfilled - I am the type of person that has to always be doing something - I find it hard to switch off so creating something, be it drawing , making jewellery or painting walls actually helps me relax!

Q: What' s the hardest part of your hobbies?

A: They are never ending - I often have more than one thing on the go and I swap between things so sometimes I feel like I never finish anything or have enough time to do everything that I want to!

What is your dream project?

I want to try working in more materials...I have an old, large mirror at home that I desperately want to add little mosaic tiles to that I bought years ago when I was on holiday in Istanbul, but I just haven't found the time! I also want to try vintage furniture restoration too!

Controversial question:

When should you start playing Christmas music?

Towards the end of November

Research and Explore...



A large chunk of oak, has been revealed as the oldest piece of carved wood in Britain, dated to more than 6,000 years ago, making it 2,000 years older than Stonehenge.

This metre-long piece of wood was found in a village called Boxford, located in Berkshire. Experts have dated it back to between 4,640 BC and 4,604 BC, which makes it 500 years older than the only other example of carved wood, found near Wales!

Find out more [here](#)

By Nabeeha R – year 7

Local Art Gallery

The Purple Gallery, a local gallery, situated 229 Mary vale Road in Bournville, sells paintings, prints, ceramics, jewellery, sculptures and more. The gallery also has an online website, if you would prefer to browse in the comfort of your own home!

By Linn P – year 7

