



# SATIPS

Research  
Education  
Training

# ART

Editor  
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## Editorial

A warm welcome to the Art broadsheet which arrives in your staffroom pigeon hole as you begin the new term and a new academic year. Hopefully ideas are flowing and sketchbooks are well underway. I am teaching infants this year which is something I haven't done for a number of years, so that is a new challenge for me and I hope to share some infant art in the next issue. I have allocated myself 'display' time each week as this is so important for all ages to see their efforts celebrated, especially younger ones. It always takes longer than you think after trimming, backing, labelling, finding the correct staples to fit the staple gun, the class often return and the wall still has no work on. We are trialling the Challenge Passport for junior classes, and each class has three challenges per term. I have linked the Art challenges to the whole school termly topic of Spain and we will try and fit them into lessons and activity time.

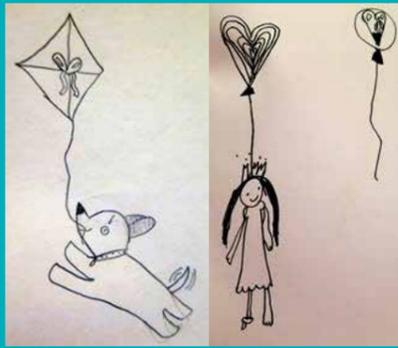
Much of our Artwork this term is linking to Queen Victoria's 200 year birthday celebrations and I can recommend **two** revealing new exhibitions, Victoria:

Woman and Crown and Victoria: A Royal Childhood at Kensington Palace if you are also using this as a topic.

The Bauhaus sees its 100 year birthday this year and we are using this to inspire colour theory, creative patterned Art, costume design and architecture projects. I have shown some of the theatre productions by Oskar Schlemmer and Paul Klee and the children were so excited to begin their work, so I'm sure this will be a successful theme. I hope to share some of the outcome with you in the next issue.

Whether you have been in the wonderful profession of teaching a creative subject for many years or you are new on the scene, I welcome any questions you may have or any ideas you are keen to share with the wider SATIPS community and maybe willing to publish your successful project. I will share lots of project photographs and ideas in the next issue but this one is dedicated to a community project I undertook using the drawings and ideas of several year groups and many children.





Some Year 3 drawings



A collage of the cut-out drawings.



Detail



The final 1.3m painting.



## Designed by Children for Children

### A 'real' brief from a local charity sees Art students bring their vision to life

The story began with an invitation to my class from The Movement Centre, a local children's physiotherapy charity attached to The Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital in Oswestry: could we paint an image on the outside of their building to make it more inviting when children arrive for treatment.

Working collaboratively within the community and in response to a genuine brief was an exciting challenge; one that I was keen to involve all pupils from Year 3 to Year 9. I visited the Centre to meet the medical team, see the building, watch the work they do and discuss the brief. I was armed with information to impart to my Art classes and ready for the inquisitive questioning. The brief only had two stipulations – the design should incorporate their kite logo and embrace the 'flying high' motto as well as be all inclusive and welcoming to the families – the design was in our hands.

A large whiteboard was used to brainstorm contributions from all classes, and a meeting attended by a volunteer leader from each class decided on a sky scene theme filled with flying children. The excited children began by drawing on rolls of lining paper stretched across the desks. I found the most spontaneity and confidence came from the youngest junior classes when drawing from their imagination. The difficult part was choosing and cutting out our favourites, as each had their own personality and could have easily made the final cut. We moved them around, overlapping and fitting together to tell the story. Carbon paper was used to transfer the final

image to a painted board resulting in a 1.3metre design of a sky scene, featuring drawings from over 50 children. They focused on 'Movement': dogs were lifted by balloons, kites carried teddies, prams with dolls floated past shooting stars and mermaids floated on clouds. Bats, bird cages, stilt walkers, hot air balloons, paper aeroplanes and spring loaded inventions to launch wheelchairs into the air, can all be seen. Something new brought a smile every time you looked at it. The design was painted and then displayed in the school foyer for visitors, allowing children to point out their own figures. We then presented it in assembly to the Movement Centre and they were thrilled to use it as a welcoming feature for their own foyer.

### The building

The seniors were tasked with the bigger challenge - designing and painting the outside of the building. They decided upon a big, bold design, accounting for any visually impaired children using the centre. Inspired by a visit to a local exhibition of Matisse's paper cut-outs of plants and figures, pupils used marker pens to draw outlines of moving bodies using one continuous line. They drew from observation of each other with some using computer drawing software to create their simple shaped figures. Inspired by photographs of an aging Matisse when he was almost blind and making his cut-outs from his wheelchair, we too mixed vibrant colours and painted papers. He famously described the technique of directly cutting figures with

scissors as 'drawing with scissors'. The tables quickly filled with pupils' designs. Elongated figures as well as twisted and contorted shapes interacted with sitting and acrobatic poses. All the elements that usually worry pupils about figure drawing were disregarded – proportion, symmetry, capturing a likeness, measuring and the dreaded 'fingers'.



Also inspired by Matisse's designs - plants, leaves and birds were simplified and added to the compositions. Large figures were over shadowed by even larger plants. These were not plants or colours you would see at Kew Gardens – acid turquoise, lurid lilac and shocking pink, all shaped by imagination and the handling of the scissors.

A final mural design, using the collage shapes, was planned around the position of the windows across the exterior wall. The logo kites were added to each figure – lifting them up, flying, seated and reclining. We asked teachers what they thought and it was a design that was given the thumbs up and so we presented it to the Movement Centre- our clients. We were a little nervous awaiting the feedback – had we fulfilled the brief? Were they expecting something smaller and more cute? Was it too bold or too simple, after all the figures didn't have eyes or clothes and we planned to

completely cover the building from floor to roof - all 17metres of it!

The feedback was really positive and so the next stop was to the local paint shop to match the masonry paint to our design palette. Standing at the wall was initially daunting and appeared much bigger than the photograph suggested. Bamboo sticks with pastels taped to the end allowed us to scale up the image without losing the quality of the image. The rough texture of the masonry meant the design had to be masked off with tape for ease when the children painted. Groups of five children at a time came for a couple of hours on the school minibus to assist. In typical British weather, we taped in torrential rain and painted in the blazing sun.

We had continual encouragement from any passers-by; the hospital postman, the people in 'stores', nurses, visitors, delivery drivers, patients, pupils' parents and maintenance staff popped along to see the progress. It developed quickly each time we stood back to view the advancement, we planned the next stage.

The triumph of the final mural was born from the strong lines, simple shapes, vivid colours and size of the figures. We were not sure what the Movement Centre were expecting when they initially asked us, but everyone who sees it stops and smiles and this was our vision.

We featured in the local newspaper which will hopefully encourage other school groups to engage in a community project.





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## Courses and Events

A selection of forthcoming courses for Autumn 2019:

### Venue : London

- 14 Oct Strategies for using iPads/ tablets in class teaching
- 14 Oct Online E-safety for schools and classrooms
- 16 Oct Art Scholarship
- 18 Oct Improving Pupil Progress by metacognition & self-regulation
- 4 Nov Moving on to Middle Management
- 8 Nov Gender Differences in the Classroom
- 11 Nov Holistic teaching in the EYFS
- 11 Nov EYFS Teaching with Inspiration
- 15 Nov Lesson Observation and Performance Management
- 22 Nov Leading Music to Outstanding
- 27 Nov Art Scholarship
- 18 Nov KS2 English Conference  
*Venue: The King's School Canterbury Kent*

For more information on this terms Courses please see the SATIPS website or contact the SATIPS Course Director.

These courses will run as training days in London, Bristol, Birmingham or York.

The cost of the day courses includes follow-up project based work and one to one feedback. They are also available as inset days.

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Bespoke training packages for schools are available with discount for more than one course booked.

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## Prep School Magazine

'Prep School' is published three times a year. It offers readers in prep schools a broad range of authoritative articles on educational issues.

*Editor: Paul Jackson (eajackson22@hotmail.com)*



## Competitions, Exhibitions and Events for pupils

**SATIPS offers a variety of pupil-focused events. Over many years schools have enjoyed entering their pupils in events that have a nationwide attraction with high standards. These events include:**

- **SATIPS Challenge** (annual general knowledge quiz)
- **National Handwriting Competition**
- **Poetry Competition**
- **SATIPSKI**
- **Annual Art Exhibition**

**Full details of all these events are at**  
[www.satips.org/competitions](http://www.satips.org/competitions)