

The Arts at Chadlington School

As a small village school, we are in the ideal situation to provide rich opportunities for all our children to participate in the arts, developing individual abilities to their full potential. With a school motto of 'Imagine, Believe, Achieve', we strive to provide a rich diversity of activities within the arts, nurturing children's talents in whichever direction they may lie.

All children receive art lessons on a weekly basis with our art instructor who is a local artist. We frequently participate in Oxfordshire's ArtsWeek, and are regular entrants in local art competitions.

We are a 'brass school' in that all children from Years 3 to 6 inclusive learn a brass instrument through the County Council music service, fully funded by the school. With a talented music teacher leading the school in singing, lessons regularly lead up to public performance.

Our school has a major interest in the teaching of drama, with our hallmark feature being our annual two night public performance at the local Chipping Norton Theatre. Last year we produced 'Oliver', with the entire school appearing in the cast over two nights. This year we are producing a film to be shown in the theatre, using puppet animation and recording film of the children.

We have several different areas of focus with dance. We have a sports teacher, with specialist dance training, who visits weekly and spends a day teaching the children a range of sports, but within this at least two short terms of the academic year are spent learning modern dance. In addition, we have a teaching assistant who is a qualified RADA ballet teacher and who currently teaches ballet to all our KS1 and Foundation children.

The latest exciting move forward for us is with the school's direction towards the art forms of puppeteering, model-making, animation and film-making. This focus, which began in the autumn term of 2014, and started with an inspirational workshop with the 'Wallace and Grommit' Aardman company, will continue through the Spring and Summer terms, culminating in the summer public showing at the local theatre.

By making the arts accessible to all, by embedding them in a rich, culturally diverse curriculum, by listening to what our children voices and by offering them leadership opportunities, we believe we offer our children a solid appreciation of the arts.