

Enrichment Celebration

Our termly guide celebrating arts, culture, expression and learning at Dalmain

In This Issue:

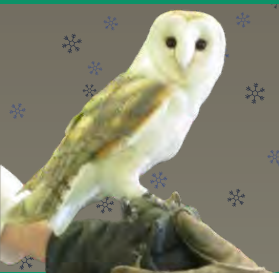
A celebration of Art and DT projects across the school



Y6 Journey Escapades!



Spirit of the Wild visit Dalmain!



Yo ho ho! FOD Winter Fair and KS1/2 Winter Performances



WELCOME...

Welcome to our Autumn addition of the new school year! Issue 3 of our Curriculum Enrichment Magazine is packed with the incredible experiences and learning that makes our school so special. We have reached the end of 2025! In this third issue we will be showcasing learning through the school, not only in Art, Music, Laban, Philosophy and DT but also our Winter Fair and the stunning Christmas Performances!



Although social media is a huge part of every day life, not everyone uses it or has hours to scroll and search through the doom and gloom, so you can raise your spirits and view all things Dalmain on our new Bluesky accounts! @dalmainps.bsky.social, @dalmainpseyfs.bsky.social and dalmain-art.bsky.social for all things art. Our new platforms on Bluesky provide us with a platform to share positive vibes with you and celebrate what makes our school so unique!

As the Autumn term draws to a close, we look back at our creative and cultural highlights, helping you get into the festive spirit!. With such a wealth of learning happening on a weekly basis it is impossible to show it all in our regular newsletter so put the kettle on, grab those fluffy slippers, sit back and enjoy.

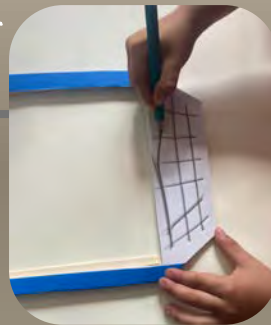
EYFS: ARTISTIC EXPLORATION

Autumn Term has seen some beautiful artwork produced by Nursery and Reception children with a variety of artistic activities linked to weekly learning. Here are some wonderful examples of the children's endeavours using a variety of media to explore different techniques through creative processes.

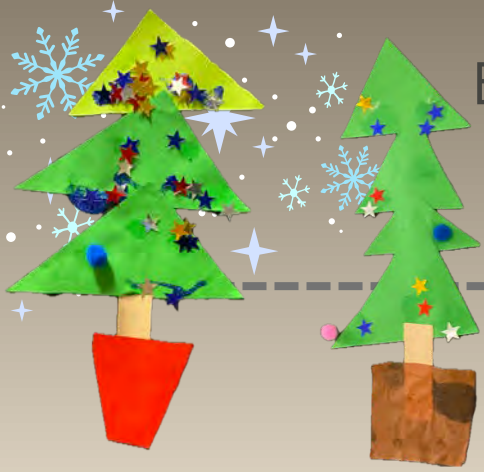


Reception children worked as a team to create this wonderful collaborative for their art gallery based on feelings inspired by the book "Mixed". Our young artists experimented with printing by scoring patterns onto foam tiles to recreate scenes from the story. Once their scene was completed the children printed characters, adding details with marker pens. As you can see below the results were incredible!

Nursery children got off to a flying start using templates and sponges to paint these cheerful looking polar bears.



EYFS: ARTISTIC EXPLORATION



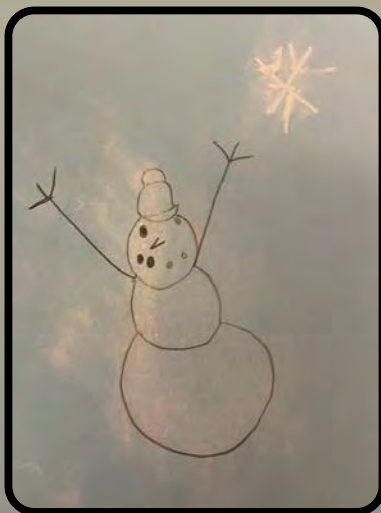
Children in Nursery have been getting into the festive spirit, creating collage Christmas trees and festive wreaths to tempt Santa!



Nursery children printed these wonderful Rudolf's and festive candles.



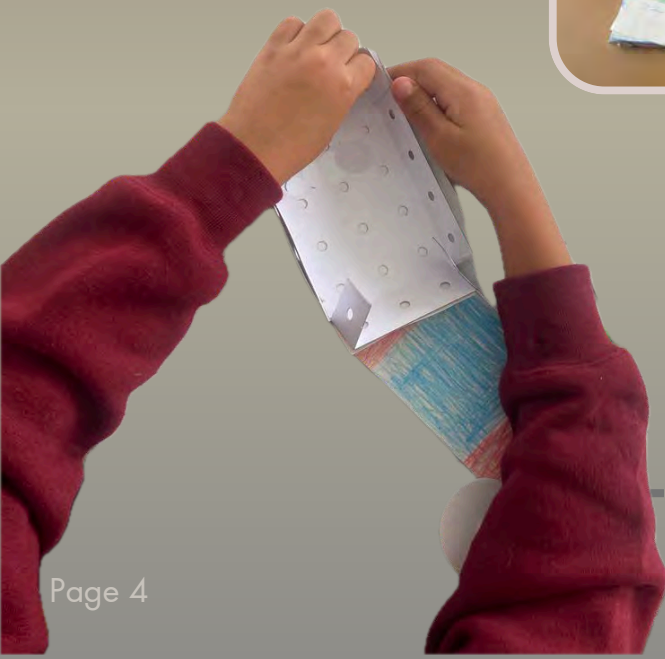
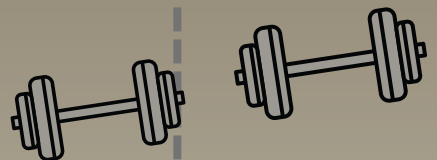
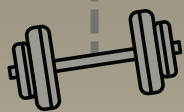
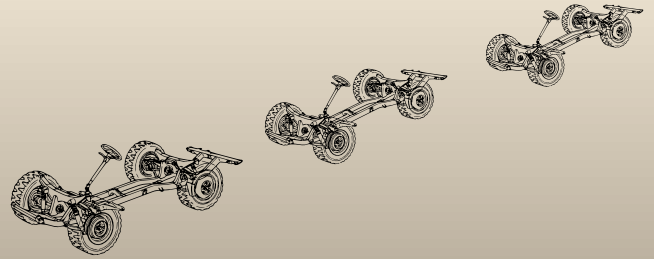
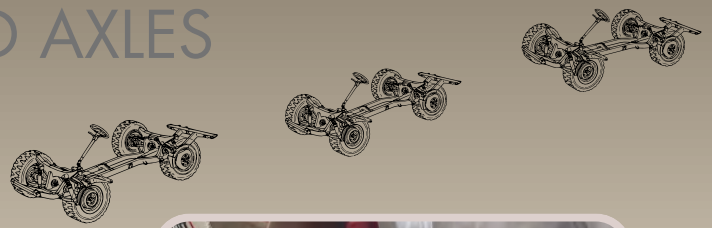
Check out these glorious pastel snowmen Reception children created, they look truly animated. Can you spot Santa Claus on his sleigh in the pictures below?



YEAR 1 DT: WHEELS AND AXLES

Designing and making cars was the focus for children in Year1 at the start of the Autumn Term. Children learned about wheels and axles by studying different vehicles.

Children started with drawing examples of cars of different types. Once they were qualified car designers children learned how to create templates, using rulers to draw straight lines and fold card. The next stage was using tech card to make a shell for the template. Finally we attached axles and wheels to make prototypes!



YEAR 2 DT: MOVING PICTURES



"I liked drawing the pictures and learning how to make them move, my wolf opened his mouth!" Rafi



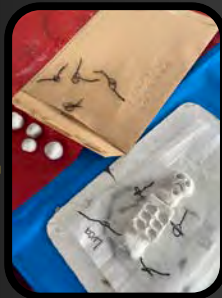
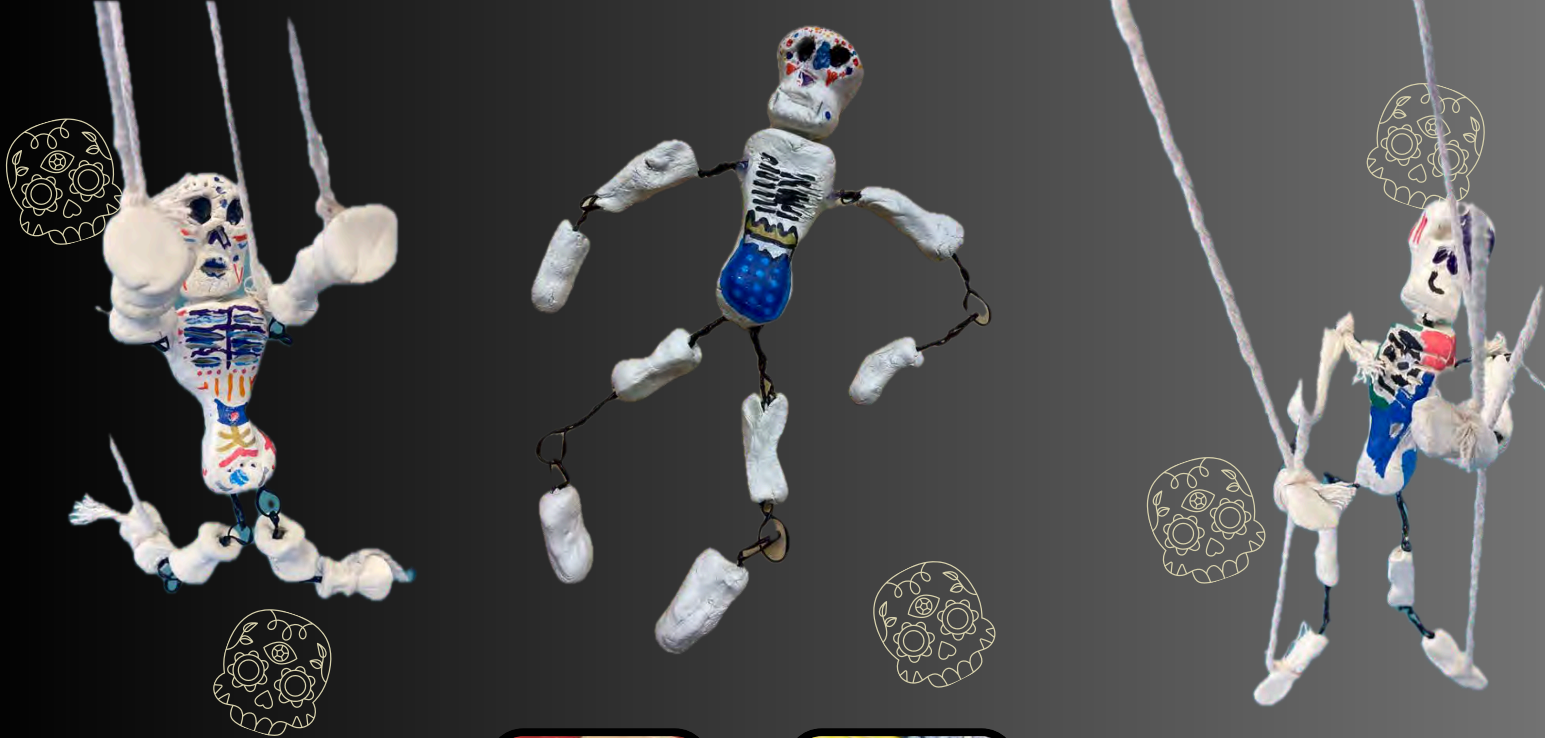
"I made a rocket, I enjoyed it because I like books about space so it inspired my design. It flew over the moon." Mia



Inspired by characters and genres of fiction, children in Year 2 learned about how we could use simple machines and mechanisms to make characters or objects move within a picture. After designing their moving picture and deciding how it was going to move, children experimented with sliding mechanisms and levers to decide which was more suited to their ideas.

Children then made template of all the parts and built a prototype. Here are some of the results!





"Decorating our puppets using the Day of the Dead Festival patterns was my favourite part. Making the skull was tricky but I was happy with it." -lizzy



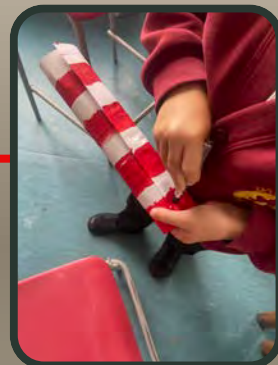
YEAR 3 DT: SKELETON MARIONETTES

As Halloween approached, children in Y3 Produced these spooktacular skeleton marionettes. This DT project required the children to make their own linkages out of garden wire to connect the different parts of the puppet to enable it to move. Children learned about the Mexican Festival "The Day of the Dead." Traditionally, families celebrate the lives of loved ones past. Part of the festivals custom includes dressing up as skeletons with elaborate face decorations which inspired the children's designs.

This project required a lot of patience and resilience, as constructing the puppet and attaching the strings in the correct place was very challenging. The children did incredibly well and helped each other to tie the knots to keep the strings in place. By the end the children were thrilled with their prototypes and couldn't wait to take them home!

YEAR 4 DT: BUILDING LIGHTHOUSES

Inspired by the literacy text 'How Does a Lighthouse Work' and linked to their science topic on electricity, Year 4 designed and constructed their own working lighthouse models using techniques learned last year when they made volcanoes. Children had the added challenge of making a circuit with a bulb and switch which had to be housed inside the tube of the model which was extremely fiddly!



"I really enjoyed building the circuits and putting them inside the lighthouse model" Casper
"I loved painting and making the island and the sea for the lighthouse." Esme



YEAR 5 ART: PLANETS, GALAXIES AND NEBULAS

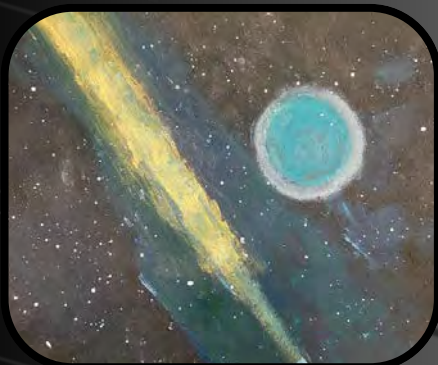
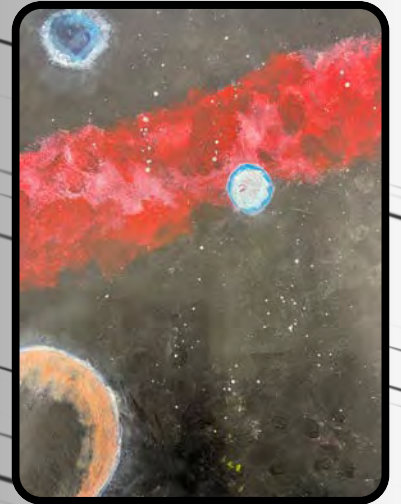
Linked to Year 5's Space Topic, children learned about artist and astronomer Lucien Rudaux and his planetary landscape paintings of the solar system. Although his paintings of Saturn and Mars were incredibly accurate he used his imagination to depict what the surfaces might look like. His work influenced and inspired generations of space artists. Year 5 were also inspired by the abstract space paintings of Chris Rivers and photorealistic work of Cathrin Machin.



YEAR 5 ART: PLANETS, GALAXIES AND NEBULAS

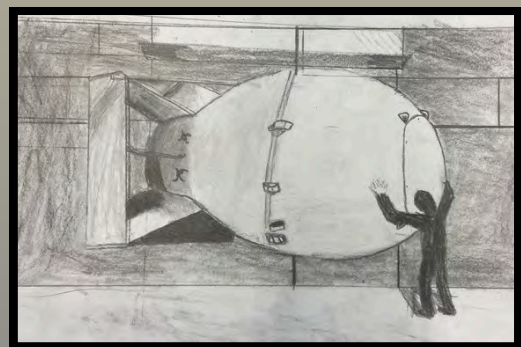
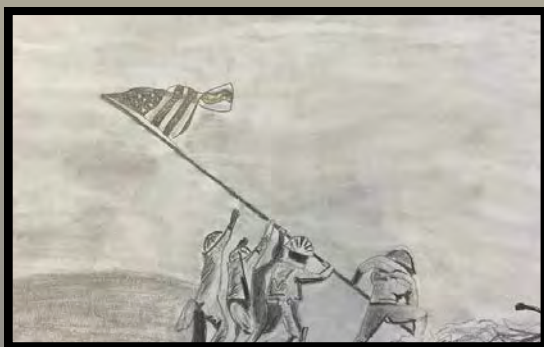
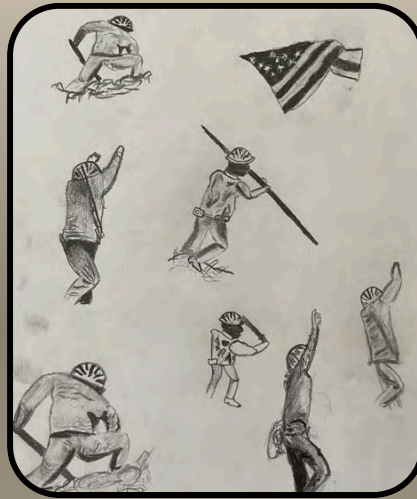
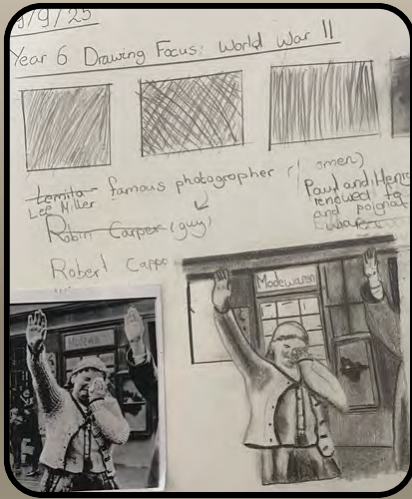
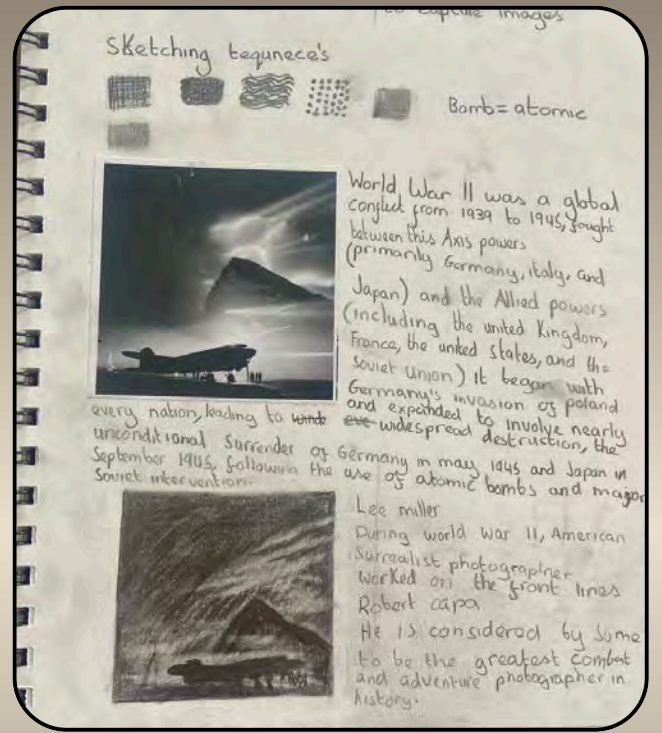


Using dry brushwork, children blended directly onto card using stippling. Using minimal amounts of paint on the brush is key to creating the smoky gas clouds of galaxies and nebulas. Children used painters ink to flick starfields to recreate the depth of space.

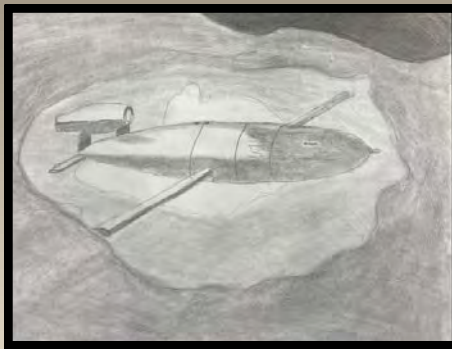
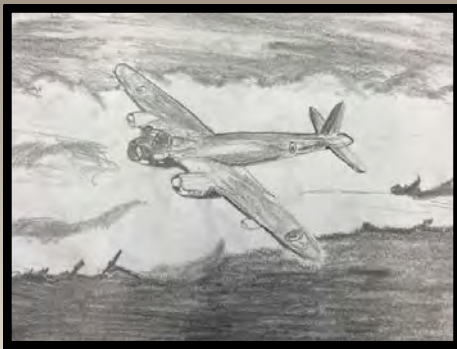


YEAR 6 ART: WW2

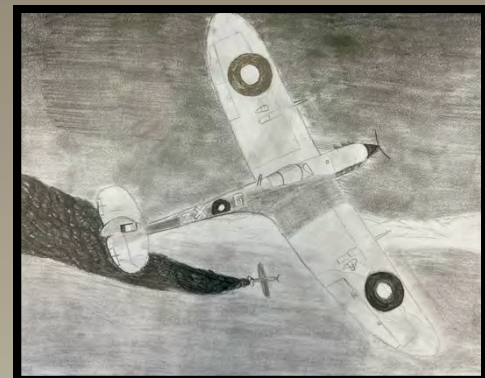
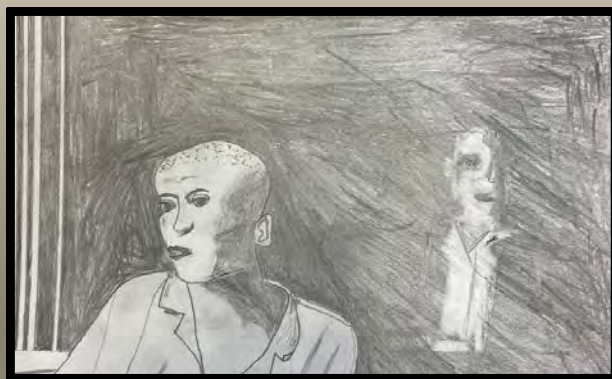
Focusing on iconic images from World War 2, Year 6 learned about photographers Lee Miller and Robert Capa and the incredible work they produced documenting the horrors of war. As part of a drawing focus, children chose media and techniques learned as they have moved up through the school. We are so proud to share these with you, the children have produced outstanding drawings that are rich in skill and capture the mood of the time.



YEAR 6 ART: WW2



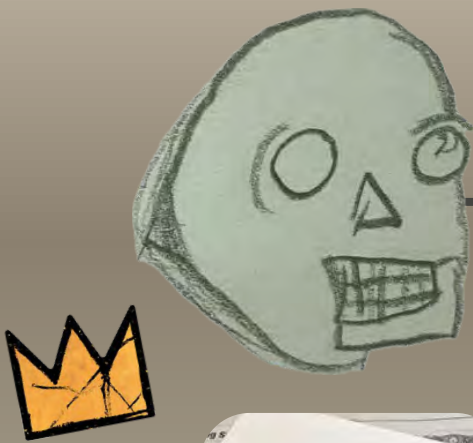
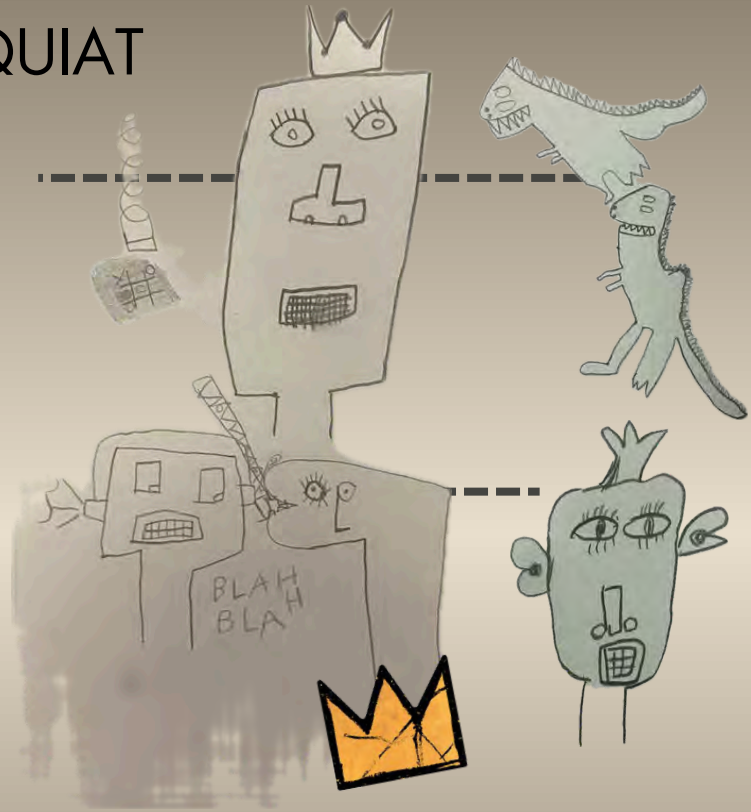
"Being able to create small details and refine techniques I had learned helped me to develop the shadows and figure. It was enjoyable to work on this project." Ivy
" I liked drawing the details in the sky for my composition of a spitfire, Im proud of the clouds and the angle of the plane." Musa



YEAR 1 PAINTING: BASQUIAT

American painter Basquiat was a huge influence on contemporary art culture during the 1980's. His work often reflected the dichotomies within society such as wealth and poverty. His favourite artworks were those of children. Our children in Year 1 love his artworks and it formed the basis of their own painting focus exploring identity and aspiration.

Children explored abstract forms and patterns first of all then learned how to blend tones of colour directly onto card using a pallet knife. Brushes and paint pens were layered on top to explore characters and symbols that reflected the themes discussed within the lessons.



"We used paint pens to make shapes and patterns on our paintings. My favourite was drawing the Basquiat faces and shapes."
Nola

"I loved painting my Basquiat picture."
Marnie



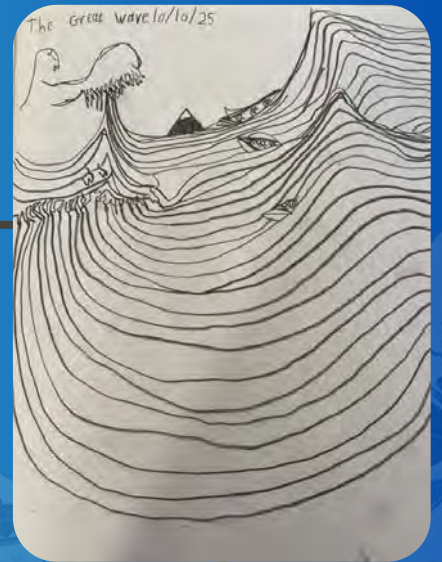
YEAR 1 PAINTING: BASQUIAT



YEAR 2 SCULPTURE: THE GREAT WAVE

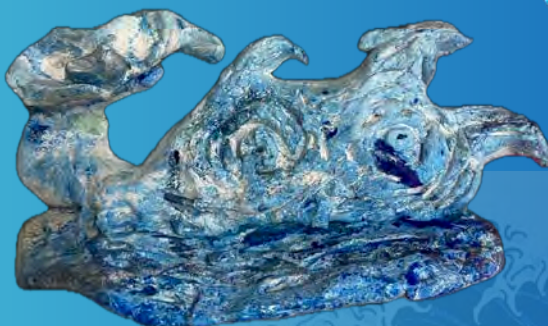
Katsushika Hokusai's The Great Wave inspired the forms of Year 2's sculpture focus this half term. Children were surprised to discover that Wallace and Gromit creator and Oscar winner Nick Park was also a sculptor and was fascinated by Hokusai's most famous painting!

Children studied the shapes and forms within the painting and translated these into contoured grooves in clay to make wave tiles, using marbling ink and varnish to replicate water forms on their sculptures.



"It was really fun carving my sculpture with tools. The marbling was very messy and fun watching the colours." Imogen

YEAR 2 SCULPTURE: THE GREAT WAVE



YEAR 3 DT: SEASONALITY

Children in Year 3 have been learning about seasonality as part of their DT focus this half term, creating fact files of what produce grows in which season and their nutritional benefits. Children enjoyed taste testing different herbs and flavours that are part of our diverse culture and used a vocabulary bank to describe the flavours. Our dish was a warming seasonal potato salad which the children prepared themselves including ingredients from our taste testing session. It disappeared very quickly so clearly they enjoyed it!



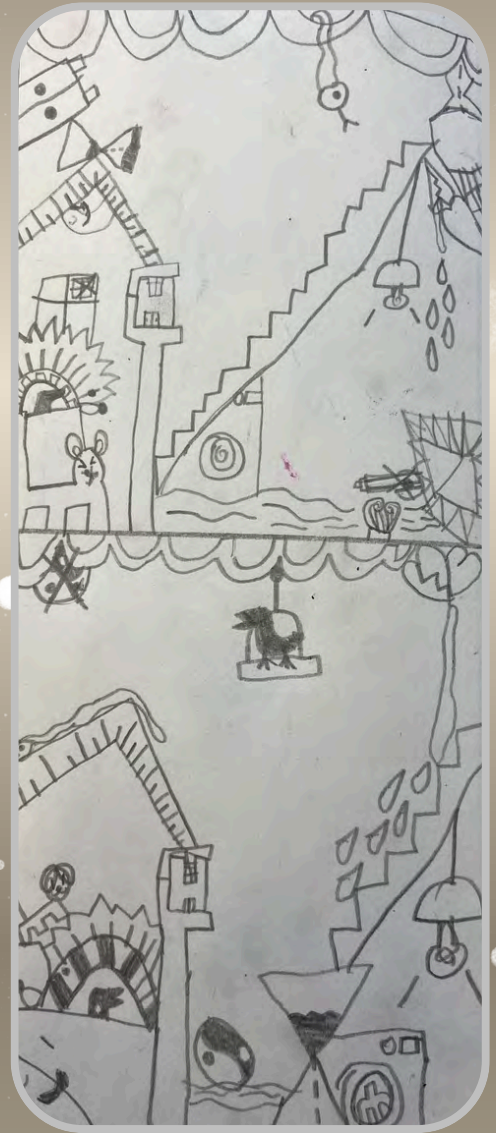
"I mixed the tikka and mint jelly together, it was yummy!" Illana



"The potato salad tasted delicious, it was yummy!" Freya

YEAR 4 DRAWING FOCUS: FOLKLORE AND VISUAL STORYTELLING

Children in Year 4 have studied the artwork of artists Leroy Clarke and Frank Bowling, exploring narratives linked to folklore originating from Trinidad and Africa. Children explored and unpicked the abstract shapes and forms to find meanings behind the compositions and what the possible stories could be being told. Children selected drawing media to develop their own abstract compositions telling stories of their own through visual language.

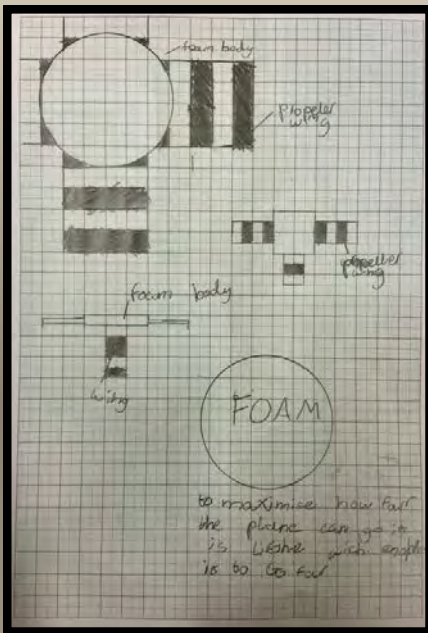
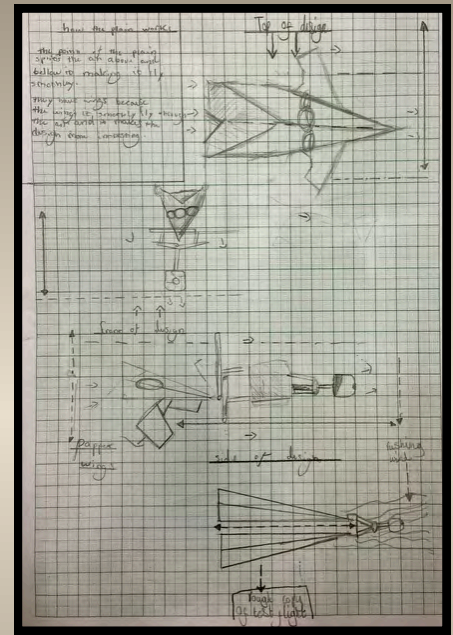
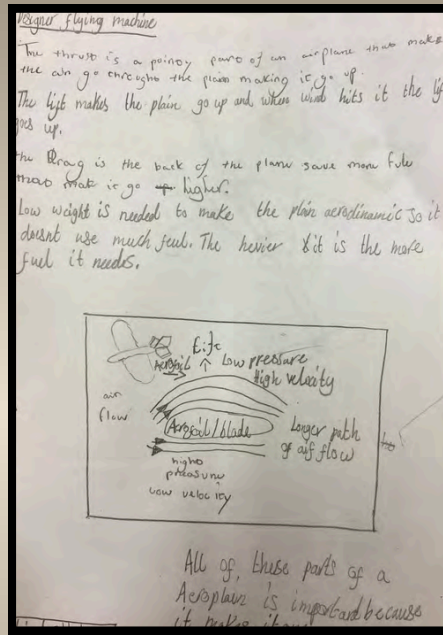


YEAR 4 DRAWING FOCUS: FOLKLORE AND VISUAL STORYTELLING

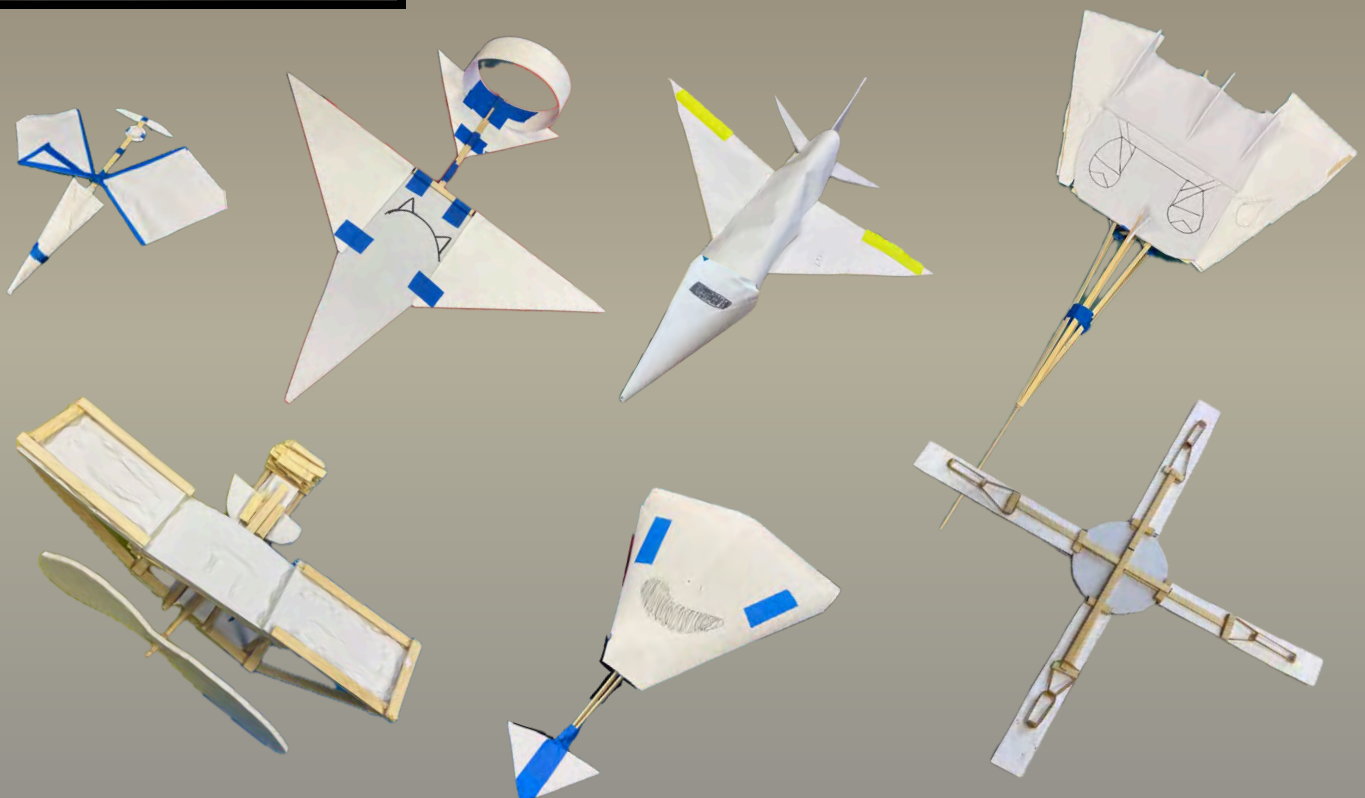


YEAR 5 DT FOCUS: FLYING MACHINES

Children in Year 5 have learned about the principles of flight this half term. Children researched lift, drag, weight and thrust. Lift, drag, weight, and thrust work together to help an aircraft fly. Thrust pushes the plane forward and helps it move through the air. Drag is the air pushing back and slowing it down. Lift pushes the plane upward, while weight is gravity pulling it down. When the engines create enough thrust, air moves over the wings and creates lift. If the lift is stronger than the weight, the plane rises into the air while overcoming drag.

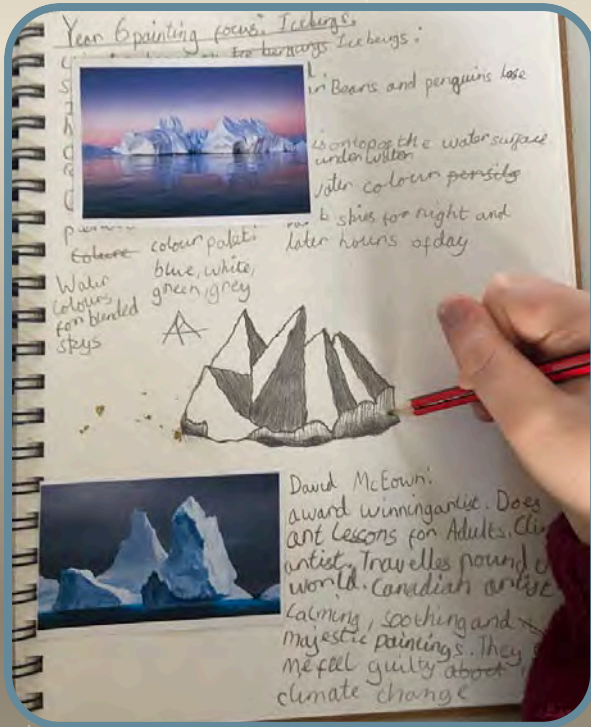


Children created technical drawings of their flying machines and experimented with different materials and forms of propulsion before building prototypes and testing them.



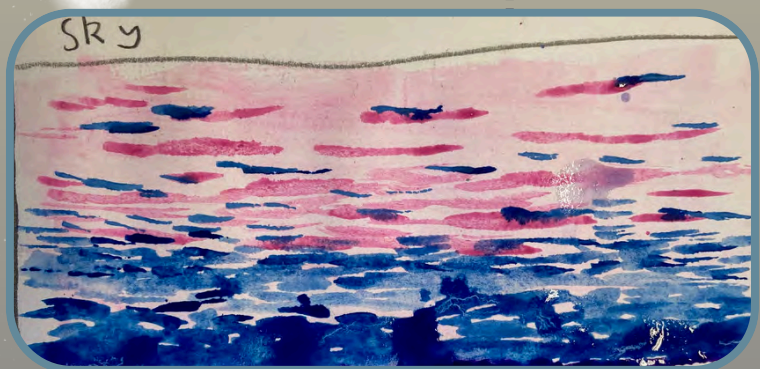
YEAR 6 PAINTING FOCUS: ICEBERGS

Children in Y6 learned about Climate Artists Jill Pelto and David McEown this half term, along with the digital painting work of Aurelie Bouquet. The children were very knowledgeable about the human impact on environments and animal species that inhabit regions where icebergs are prominent. We were inspired by their travels to paint glaciers and icebergs in the moment and Jill Pelto's use of climate data within her work. Choosing watercolour, oil, or acrylic, children have developed beautiful sketchbook work and compositions that reflect the natural beauty of these monolithic subjects.

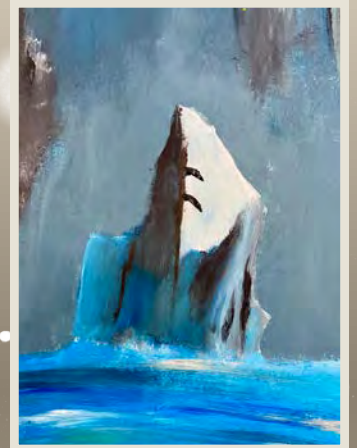


"I think I really improved my dry brush work and how to develop tonal values with acrylic." Freddie

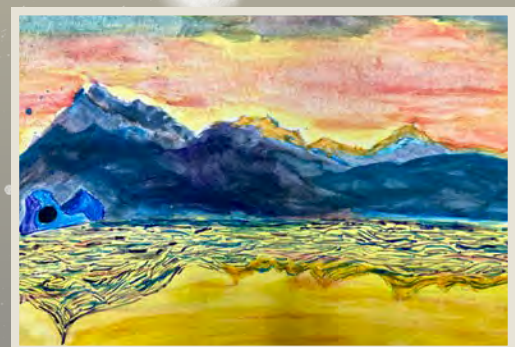
"I have learned a lot about blending and choosing colours that compliment each other for my composition." Ivy



YEAR 6 PAINTING FOCUS: ICEBERGS



YEAR 6 PAINTING FOCUS: ICEBERGS



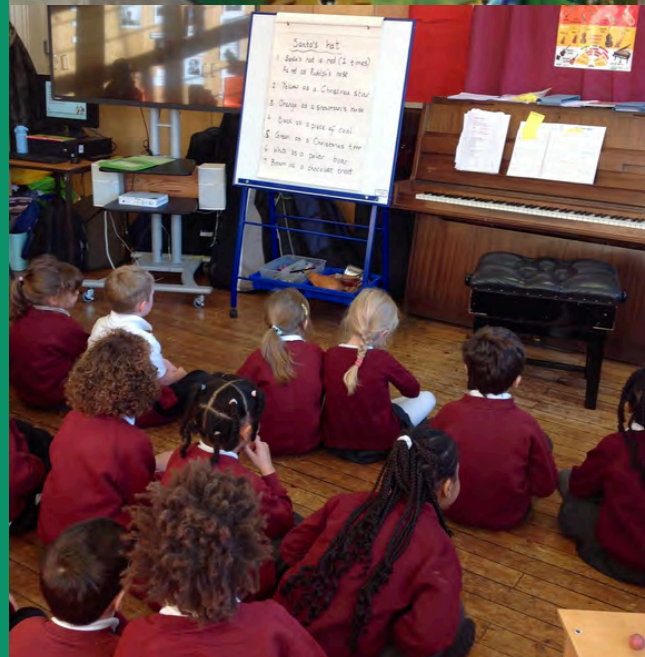
Music: Specialist Music Teacher Jane Jackson shares the incredible learning this term!

In the Nursery the children have been enjoying meeting Little Teddy every week when he brings along a character or set of instruments to use as we are singing the songs that they have very much enjoyed learning. We have been singing nursery rhymes alongside 'open, shut them', 'shake your sillies out', 'Riding on a buggy Miss Mary Jane' and 'Jig jog jee'. Little Teddy's Hello song helps teach us how to keep a steady beat, clap rhythms and sing with both a loud and quiet voice.

In Reception we have been using untuned percussion instruments including tambourines, maracas and bells whilst singing songs including 'Sing me one now', 'Little Johnny dances' and 'Sing me one now'. We have also been playing along to picture scores which represent loud and quiet sounds alongside counting the number of beats that we are required to play.

In Key Stage One we have been learning action songs and songs representing pitch such as 'Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear' and 'Ebenezer Sneezer'. The children have been working really hard learning the songs that are singing in the Winter Songfest Concert. Year 1 have been busy memorising their song all about Santa's various hats. In year 2 the children have been focussing on accurate tuning and legato singing for their song called 'Snow song' where they describe the magic of a frosty winter evening. Both year groups join together for a joyous rendition of 'Everybody sing', The Snowman song' and a song all about 'Christmas Crackers'.

In Key Stage Two we are showcasing our ability to sing in a wide range of singing styles from the fun and comedy style of 'Must be Santa' and 'I want a hippopotamus for Christmas', the need for accuracy in the rounds 'Christmas is coming' and 'The snow is falling' to the powerful singing shown in 'Wonder' and 'Sing'. Singing is very much a strength of our school and Mrs Jackson has the delightful job of leading the children along their journey of singing for pleasure and witnessing their sheer joy of being connected with their peers leading to an increased sense of community and belonging.

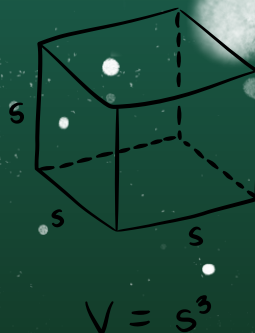


MATHS WEEK:

This autumn term, Dalmain celebrated a vibrant and hugely successful Maths Week, joining schools across the country in recognising the fun, creativity and wonder of mathematics as part of Maths Week England. The school buzzed with excitement as children from Nursery to Year 6 immersed themselves in mathematical thinking, problem solving and exploration.

Our whole-school focus text for the week was *How Many Jelly Beans?* by Andrea Menotti. Soon, colourful jars of jellybeans began to appear in classrooms, sparking curiosity, conversation—and the occasional mysterious disappearance of a jellybean or two! These jars became the foundation for a wide range of mathematical investigations. Children explored arrays to uncover square numbers, created tally charts and bar graphs to analyse the most popular colours, and used sampling techniques to estimate the “jelly bean population” within a jar. Some classes even produced pie charts based on their findings. In Year 4, the classroom was transformed into a fully-fledged Jelly Bean Factory, where pupils worked diligently to help Mr Alasow solve a host of jelly-bean-themed mathematical challenges.

Across the school, each year group studied a significant mathematician—Euclid, Carl Gauss, Ada Lovelace and more—creating fact files to celebrate their achievements and contributions. Alongside this, pupils engaged in maths-inspired art activities, drawing influence from famous artists such as Mondrian and Kandinsky. Year 6 extended this creative work by designing tessellations using pentominoes, demonstrating the beautiful connection between mathematical structure and artistic expression.



MATHS WEEK:

Here is a glimpse of the learning that took place across the year groups:

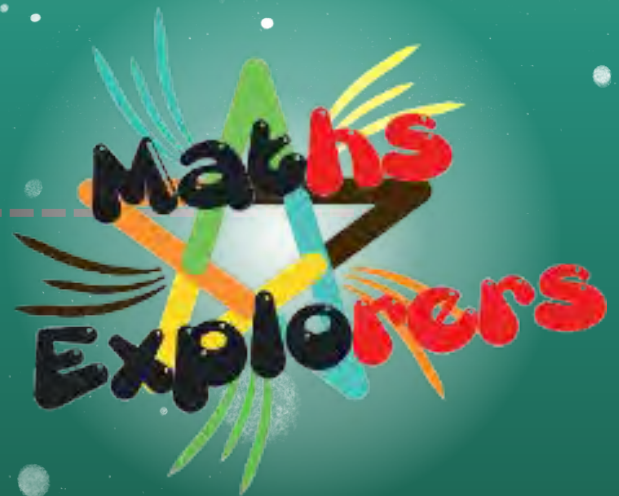
- Early Years: Subtilising, sequencing and hands-on jellybean maths.
- Year 2: Exploring the work of Albrecht Dürer and creating their own Dürer-style prints, as well as comparing and categorising jellybeans.
- Year 3: Investigating curves of pursuit in art and producing their own designs, alongside researching Ada Lovelace.
- Year 4: Immersed themselves in the Jelly Bean Factory, making predictions, solving challenges, and estimating quantities. Their maths-art focus was Wassily Kandinsky, who believed shapes and colours could express emotions. Children listened to music several times—lying still, imagining movement, and finally drawing the sounds using expressive colour and form.
- Year 5: Jelly bean estimating, comparisons and counting challenges.
- Year 6: Using sampling methods to estimate large quantities, constructing bar and pie charts, identifying mean, mode and median values, and even designing their own mathematical board games.



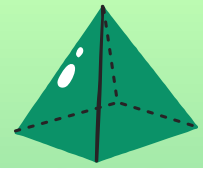
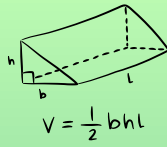
To further enrich the week, FOD generously funded an inspiring maths workshop for Upper Key Stage 2, led by the brilliant team at Maths Explorers, Rita and Penny. Their workshops encouraged children to think deeply, ask questions, persevere through challenges, and approach problems like real mathematicians. The sessions were dynamic, thought provoking, and wonderfully engaging, with every child fully involved in the joy of discovery.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to FOD and to Maths Explorers for providing such a memorable and impactful learning experience.

We concluded our celebrations with a whole-school assembly, where children proudly shared their work, reflected on their learning, and celebrated all things mathematical. Maths Week at Dalmain was a joyful reminder that mathematics is not just about numbers—it is about curiosity, creativity, collaboration, and seeing the world through a new and exciting lens.

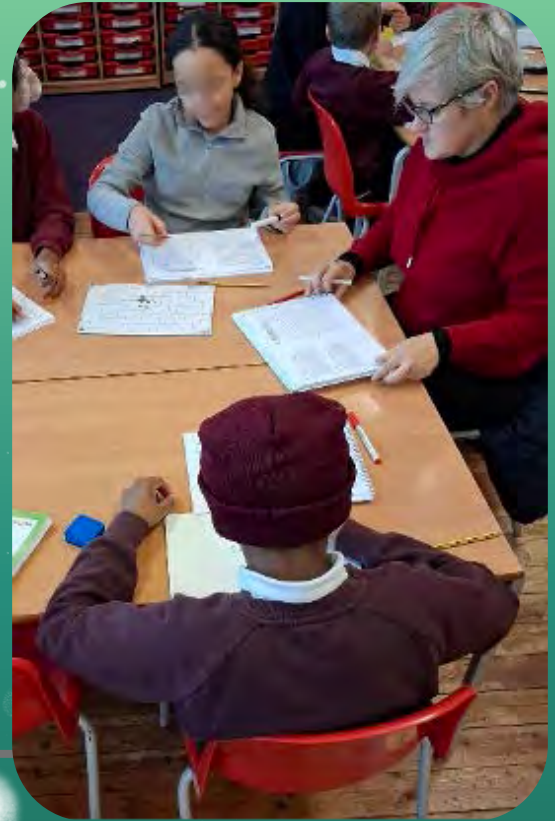


ACTION TUTORING:



Each Tuesday and Thursday, a group of dedicated pupils from Years 5 and 6 take part in the Action Tutoring programme. This invaluable initiative is delivered by trained volunteer tutors who generously provide free, high-quality support to help pupils strengthen their mathematical skills, build confidence, and make measurable academic progress. This term has been particularly successful. The children have demonstrated significant improvement in their mathematical understanding and are now applying their enhanced skills with greater assurance during classroom learning. Their growing confidence, perseverance, and enthusiasm have been evident throughout the programme, and their achievements are a testament to their hard work and commitment.

We would like to extend a special congratulations to all pupils who have maintained 100% attendance—a fantastic accomplishment that reflects their dedication to learning. We are also immensely grateful to our wonderful volunteer tutors, whose time, expertise, and encouragement make such a meaningful difference. Their ongoing commitment ensures that our pupils receive the personalised support they need to thrive. Finally, a heartfelt thank-you goes to Sam, who leads and coordinates the programme with exceptional care and skill. Action Tutoring continues to be an asset to our school community, and we look forward to another term of progress and success.



PHILOSOPHY:

Year 5 have been receiving Philosophy sessions on Fridays this term, where they have unpicked some of life's big questions, explored through role-play, discourse, debating and contextualised scenarios. The children have learnt how to ask thought-provoking questions, question a class-mate's reasoning and support and reinforce an agreed point of view. Our philosophy sessions have even spilled out into the wider curriculum as we have begun to have debating and questioning during our English lessons and even explored it further during our History unit on the Ancient Greeks. We are very grateful to Mr Harris for facilitating wonderful discussions.

"I really liked Philosophy because normally I would have an answer straight away to give, but the way Mr. Harris would ask questions, it would make me think in a different way and I would come up with different answers to what I normally would be capable of." - Joy

"I enjoy Philosophy because it made me think differently and harder to come up with different discussions to lots of different questions. It helped me to explain things in a way I never had before." - Anaia





SPIRIT OF THE WILD:



Every year the amazing world of wildlife comes directly to Dalmain. Spirit of the Wild is a highlight the children look forward too, allowing them to experience handling and learning about some wonderful wildlife that you wouldn't normally be able to get up close to. Guests included snakes, arachnids and insects, owls and eagles, meerkats and a friendly husky called Ice.

Year 1 had a great time with 'Spirit of the Wild' when they came to show us lots of different animals. We saw large grasshoppers, and other insects, a big toad, an enormous hairy black spider, a snake, a barn owl and a husky dog. We got to touch and hold the animals and we loved it when the barn owl flew across the room.

"My favourite animal to see was the dog and the spider" Arielis

"At first it was a bit scary but then I was brave" Oliver

"The snake was so big!" Otie

Year 2:
"I enjoyed Ice, the dog and the skunks because they were fluffy." James.

"I liked Ice, the dog because we got to see the man tell us about Ice and I liked the lizard because it felt like the snake." Rafi.

"I liked the tarantula as it felt ticklish and I was able to hold it." Athena.



TRINITY LABAN:

This term, Year 6 have been exploring how nature can inform movement and dance this term. As this term has been focused on Evolution and Inheritance, students have been looking at the evolution of birds to help choreograph routines. They created short performances in groups to show the different features and characteristics of birds.

As part of their Laban classes, Year 5 pupils experimented with contact and non-contact forces, showing pushes, pulls, resistance, and magnetic-style attraction through partner and group work. They also created sequences to represent orbiting, using circular pathways and varying speeds to show how forces act between objects in space.



"Throughout Laban this term, I have loved incorporating our learning from Teaching of Reading, Science and Writing into movement and choreographed routines. I've enjoyed being able to perform them to the class and inspire others to dance." Mirabelle

"I really enjoy learning about different types of movement. I've liked choreographing a dance piece as a group. We have been looking at different types of birds and what species they evolved from and using these to inspire movements." Pawel



"We have been exploring forces, looking at pushes and pulls. It's been fun because we get to work collaboratively and use our bodies in a range of ways." Robin

"When we looked at puppetry, we had to try and follow what our partner wanted us to do. I really enjoy how Wendy always has us moving so we spend more time dancing than sitting!" Taymour

EYFS/KS1 EMERGENCY SERVICES VISIT:



Despite the wet wild weather, we thoroughly enjoyed a visit from the emergency services! We explored the inside and outside of an ambulance and got to speak with the paramedics about the work that they do.

We enjoyed sitting in a police car and seeing the flashing blue lights. We got to wear some police uniform and some of us even got handcuffed!

The fire engine was really big and we had to climb up very carefully to sit inside it! It was really fun and we got to speak to the real firefighters!



TRIPS:

This term Years 1 and 2 visited St. Saviours Church! We listened to the Vicar, who told us all about the story of Christmas and showed us all the special parts of the Church. The children were so lucky as they got to ring the Church bell and even had a chance to listen to Father David play the organ. We have been learning all about Christianity and the stories from the Bible this half term so both classes had a fantastic time!

"I pulled the bell rope. Ding Dong" - Alexandru
"The stained glass windows are beautiful" – Avery
'I counted more than 20 crosses!' – Dylan
'That was so cool!' – Oliver



Year 3 took a tour of St Paul's Cathedral this half term which helped them to learn more about its fascinating features and what makes it such an iconic and special place of worship. It was a perfect link to their learning in RE.



Year 4 enjoyed an exciting trip to the London Transport Museum to learn about the history of transport in the capital. They took part in a hands-on workshop, explored an amazing range of vehicles and even tried their hand at designing a carbon-neutral city.

"I liked going on the omnibus which means bus for everyone in Latin" Kit



Year 4 had a fantastic time at the Science Museum's Wonderlab, discovering scientific ideas through interactive exhibits and thrilling demonstrations. They explored forces, electricity and materials in action. It was an exhilarating hands-on day that sparked curiosity and excitement!



Y6 PGL:

At the end of last half-term, our Year 6 pupils embarked on a truly unforgettable residential trip to PGL Overstrand Hall in Norfolk. For many, it was their first experience away from home, a significant milestone in their journey towards independence. While some nerves were expected on departure day, the children quickly adapted, demonstrating remarkable resilience, courage, and determination as they embraced a wide variety of new experiences throughout the week.

From the moment we arrived on Monday, excitement filled the air. Pupils were warmly greeted by the PGL staff and introduced to our instructors—Ellie, Carys, and Connor—who guided us through an orientation of the site. The children were then thrown straight into their first activities: High Equilibrium, Nightline, and problem-solving challenges. These initial tasks encouraged everyone to step beyond their comfort zones, and it was inspiring to see children supporting one another and quickly gaining confidence. The day concluded with a delicious dinner, followed by a campfire evening, complete with singing, riddles, and toasted marshmallows, providing the perfect introduction to a week of adventure and growth.

Tuesday began bright and early with a hearty breakfast and our now-traditional energetic dance session on the field—a chance for children to shake off the morning cobwebs and share plenty of laughter. The morning's activities included archery, buggy building, Quidditch, and low ropes, which encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, and perseverance. The afternoon saw pupils embracing climbing and fencing, pushing themselves beyond previous limits. That evening, our disco was a highlight of the week: children glammed up, danced with joy, and shared laughter and playful competition. Naomi's attempt at "the worm" will certainly be remembered for years to come!



Wednesday brought another day of resilience-building challenges, including Bushcraft, Leap of Faith, and pond exploration. Pupils were determined, supportive of one another, and increasingly confident in their abilities. The afternoon was spent at the local beach, where team games, sandcastle building, and even a few daring paddles in the sea created lasting memories. These shared experiences nurtured friendship, cooperation, and a strong sense of community across the group. That evening, the children showcased their knowledge in a quiz night, celebrating each other's successes and reflecting on how much they had grown in just a few days.

Y6 PGL:

Thursday was slightly wetter, with rainy and windy conditions, but spirits remained high. Kitted out in waterproofs, the children tackled caving, Aeroball, and buggy building, demonstrating determination and a positive attitude despite the weather. The afternoon offered the chance to spend pocket money in the site shop, allowing pupils to choose souvenirs to remember their week. Our final evening was a cozy movie night, gathered in pyjamas with sweets, celebrating a week filled with achievements, laughter, and shared experiences. Even on Friday, pupils continued to demonstrate their resilience, independence, and teamwork, completing shelter-building and orienteering challenges before enjoying a final meal together. When it was time to depart, it was clear that this trip had been transformative. Every child returned home exhausted yet full of confidence, pride, and unforgettable memories.



This residential trip was not just about the exciting activities; it was an opportunity for pupils to develop resilience, independence, and crucial life skills, while also forming strong friendships and deeper bonds across the year group. The growth, courage, and determination shown by every child were truly remarkable, and it was inspiring to witness their personal achievements throughout the week. We are immensely proud of the children and cannot wait to welcome the next Year 6 cohort to what promises to be another adventure-filled, inspiring, and memory-making experience.



WINTER PERFORMANCES:

The children raised the roof for our Winter Songfest Concert! In EYFS, the pupils joyfully brought the Nativity story to life through music, sharing favourites such as 'I'll Tell You a Story', 'Tingalayo', 'Three Kings Were Riding', 'We're So Angelic', 'Let's Go Let's Go', 'It Was on a Starry Night', and finishing with a heart-warming 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas'.

Year 1 threw themselves into their cheerful song all about Santa's many hats, filling the hall with their wonderful voices. Meanwhile, Year 2 focused on singing smoothly and in tune for their beautiful piece, 'Snow Song', which described a sparkling winter night. Both year groups then joined together for joyful performances of 'Everybody Sing', 'The Snowman Song', and a lively tune celebrating Christmas Crackers.

In Key Stage Two, the children shone as they explored a wonderful range of singing styles. They brought humour and character to 'Must Be Santa' and 'I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas', demonstrated impressive accuracy in 'Christmas Is Coming' and 'The Snow Is Falling', and showcased their powerful, expressive voices in the uplifting songs 'Wonder' and 'Sing'. It was a delight to see every child's confidence grow, and the concerts truly celebrated all their hard work and joy.



WINTER FAIR:

Once again FOD brought our school community together and provided us with a fantastic Winter Fair!

The 2025 Dalmain Christmas Fair was an exhilarating occasion, bursting with festive excitement and countless stalls to explore. From the moment families stepped through the gates, the whole school felt alive with music, laughter and the smell of delicious winter treats drifting through the playground.

One of the first highlights was the Dalmain Band, who played a brilliant selection of classic Christmas songs that everyone could sing along to. Their performance filled the playground with cheer and brought the whole community together. You simply couldn't be bored—there were fun and exciting activities in every corner!

Across the fair there were stalls where you could win, spend and gift. The legendary Chamber of Secrets was definitely one of the most popular stalls again this year. It was my favourite by far—choosing special presents, wrapping them in Christmassy paper, and secretly deliver them to anyone you wanted made it feel magical. There were also winter crafts, eco tote-bag making, jolly jars, the bottle tombola, the raffle, and Santa's Grotto, where children could meet Father Christmas and share their Christmas wishes.



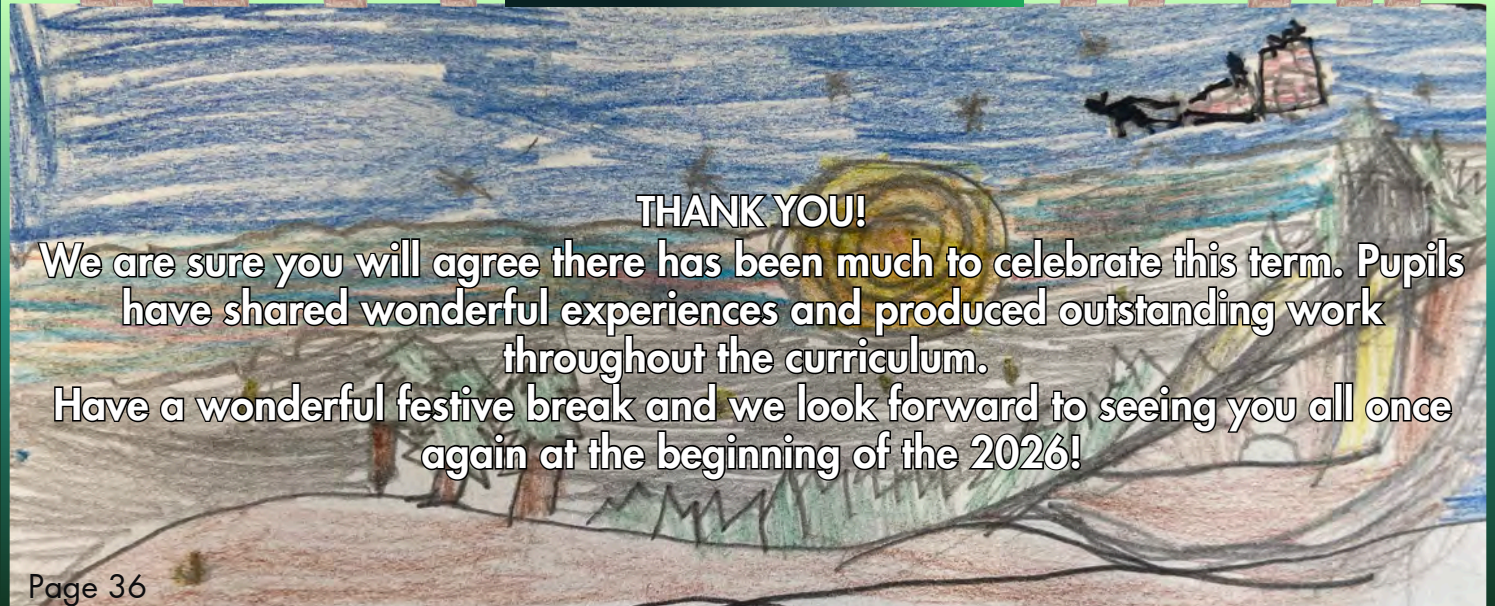
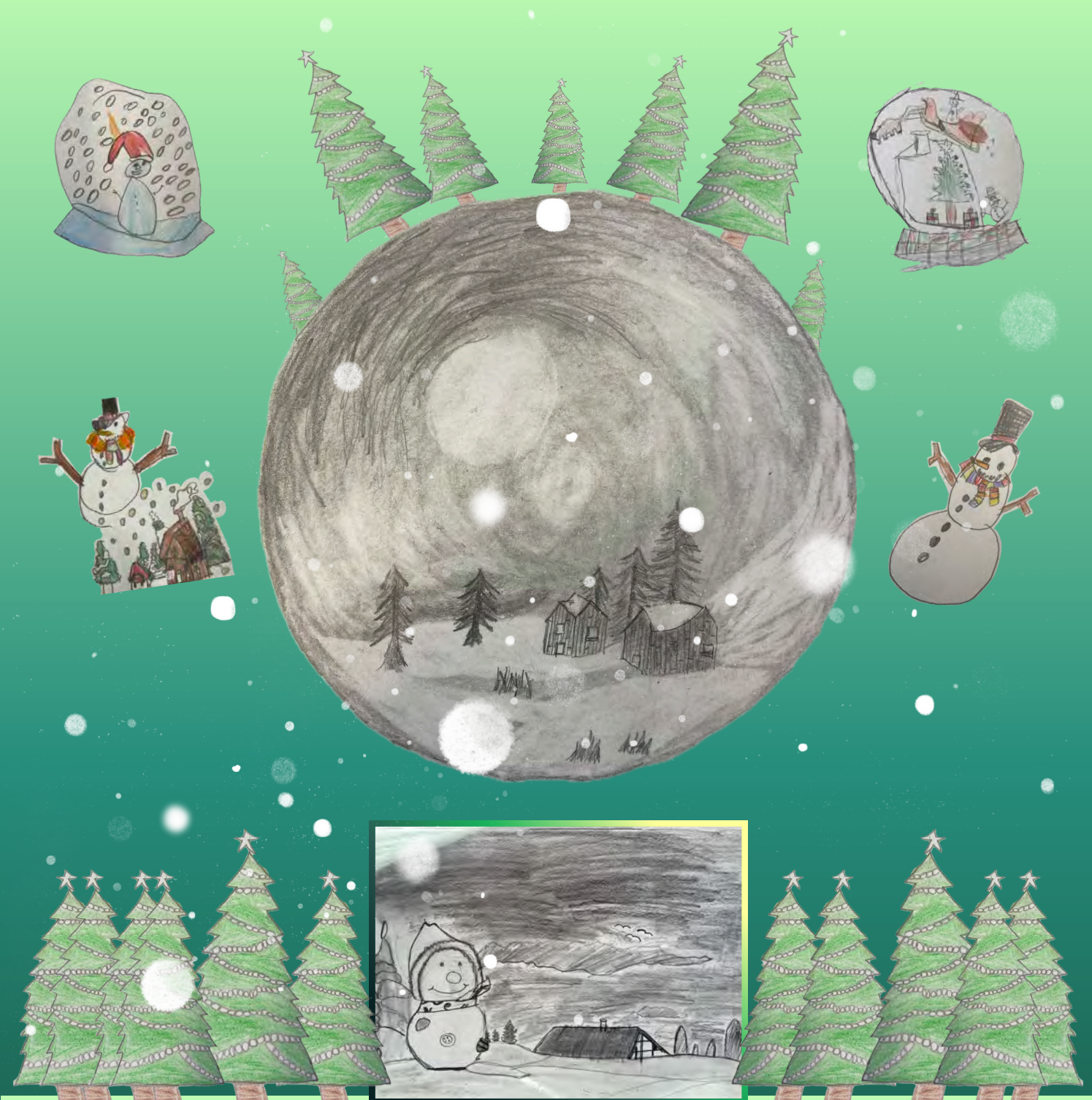
In the main hall, tables were piled high with desserts, snacks and appetising drinks. Up in the upstairs hall, the excitement continued with games, competitions and even a giant bouncy castle that towered almost to the ceiling. A humongous, sparkly dog also made an appearance upstairs, sitting proudly with Miss Rochester. At the end of the fair, after lots of wonderful suggestions, he was officially named "Mr Roberts."

Many of us from Year 6 volunteered, and working on the stalls made the day even more special. I loved helping at the hot chocolate stand, where people queued for steaming, heart-warming drinks topped with whipped cream, caramel sauce and marshmallows. It was great to see so many happy faces enjoying our creations, and we felt proud to be part of it.

Thanks to the hard work of FOD and the whole school community, the fair was a major success and raised lots of money for new school resources and extra-curricular activities. Every stall, every performance, and every smiling visitor helped make it unforgettable.

The Dalmain Winter Fair clearly showcased our school's vibrant, welcoming community. It was an amazing experience from start to finish—and we highly recommend coming again next year!

Written by: Anna, Isla-Mae, Celia and Nina.



THANK YOU!

We are sure you will agree there has been much to celebrate this term. Pupils have shared wonderful experiences and produced outstanding work throughout the curriculum.

Have a wonderful festive break and we look forward to seeing you all once again at the beginning of the 2026!