

## Orrets Meadow Art Day visit Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

On a grey windy and wet day, I attended school and was shown to the Giraffe class. What a wonderful contrast to the weather outside. The class along with Mr Campbell and teaching staff warmly greeted me with smiles and interest. The lesson began with learning the background of the artist Vincent Van Gogh. The lesson also discussed Van Goghs early years and getting a feel for the story behind the artist.

The pupils were very engaged in the lesson being taught. They politely raised their hands to answer questions and some pupils even corrected their teacher. This to me showed how confident they felt within their environment and were able to let their voices be heard. In fact, this was encouraged by Mr Campbell and house points were awarded to some pupils.

The lesson started slowly and quickly gathered some pace. All the children were happily writing down answers and some asked for clarification on points raised. The pupils interest continued and they were then encouraged to begin drawing sunflowers. They listened to direction and followed through to produce some amazing artwork.

After break I was encouraged to look through their art books. I could see some excellent progress with children starting with pencil drawings and developing to full art displays. At the end of each project was a smiley face to the children to self-diagnose how they felt after each work. The artwork I saw produced on that day clearly showed to me skill progression and that it was their own interpretation of work that is very important.

I would like to thank Mr Campbell and all the teaching staff as well as pupils for making me feel so welcome and allowing me to visit their class lesson. The time I spent in Orrets Meadow brightened up my whole day.

Marion