**Zebras Governor Visit – Autumn 2023**

It’s always a pleasure to visit Zebra’s class and my visit for art day was no exception. It was lovely to meet the new members of Zebra class, who joined school in September. The pupils are so welcoming.

For Art day, Zebra’s class were studying Yayoi Kusama. They began by looking into the artist, and her work, but it also led beautifully into the class being able explore and identify different patterns. Pupils had explored creating different patterns, in different mediums including making large patterns in chalk in the tuff tray. This allowed exploration of size, before the pupils were encouraged to create their own patterns at a practice stage.

Staff encouraged the pupils that they didn’t have to copy the artist’s ideas but that they could follow their own inspiration. With some budding artist’s in the class it was great to see them dive into creation of patterns from their own imagination, as well as those who explored their own version or more typical patterns to practice techniques.

Throughout the lesson class staff checked the pupil’s understanding and encouraged them to recap instructions to ensure they were confident in what they were doing.

Pupils had access to try lots of different mediums to create their patterns including, watercolour paints, poster paints, crayons, pencils and their own resources such as preferred paint pens. Staff encouraged them to explore new mediums and techniques or to build their skills in familiar techniques, with staff able to support them with subtle pointers e.g. how to hold their brush for more control throughout their creation.

It was lovely to see the enthusiasm all pupils explored techniques with such as ‘splatter technique’, discovering what colours they can make through mixing of others and limitations in some techniques e.g. using a brush to paint into the corners of squares.

Pupils were comfortable sharing their work with each other and receiving positive feedback and encouragement from each other.

I was able to pop in to see the finished products later in the day and it was just amazing to see the variety of end results. The pupils had truly used their own interpretation and varied medium to come up with some fab works of art!

Kind regards

Tamsin Coates