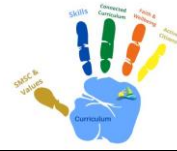




Why Design Technology?



Connected Curriculum

A message from Mrs Buckley , our Design and Technology lead:

We are invested at Darlinghurst in enriching children's learning experience at school and have designated Design and Technology lessons taught by myself. I have a great desire to nurture and enhance creative ability as well as encourage hidden abilities within the subject area, and have a classroom dedicated to these lessons, where as well guided lessons being taught work is displayed and celebrated.

Design and Purpose

Design and Technology is about providing opportunity for children to use creativity and imagination to design and make products that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs.

Within our school we have many creative children from nursery to year 6 who all have the chance to engage in DT based sessions. The children have a love of this creative expression at Darlinghurst and we aim to teach and enhance the skills they need to create, enquire and explore. All DT is linked to the Edison curriculum and their topic work, which further embeds their learning in class.

DT lessons also occur as part of Outdoor Learning and Connected Curriculum lessons, making links to Science, Art and Learning and Life Skills.

At Darlinghurst we are inquisitive and active learners who ask lots of challenging questions about how things work and the world around us. As part of our curriculum design, we ensure learning in is holistic and authentic.

Difference

Our children learn to be successful learners through questioning and testing ideas. Our children are equipped to be confident individuals through critical thinking and team players as a result of learning with others.

At Darlinghurst, we know our children need the knowledge and the skills to succeed. It is a continuing process to encourage learning through experiences to best ensure that our children are prepared for the complex world they will be living in when they leave school. We offer our children a wide variety of experiences in Design Technology to help prepare them for real-life situations in the future, whereby they can develop their problem solving skills and design and invent new ideas.

'Achieving Excellence Together'

Design and Technology Reflections

Autumn

Design and Technology happened across the curriculum in different ways. Year 1 designed and build their own games using sticks in their outdoor learning lessons. Year 2 designed and made Tudor houses using cereal boxes and clay. Year 3 learnt about electricity and enjoyed practical sessions making circuits. Year 4 designed their own blindfold challenge using rope around the school as part of their topic 'How do we see? How do we hear?' They also designed and made their own musical instrument looking at vibration. They did this through adapting brooms and bin lids and water cans or using bottles for shakers. Year 6 created Anderson shelters and Balista catapults as part of their outdoor learning lessons.

Spring

In the Spring term, we took part in National Science Week in March and Eco week in January where different year groups investigated and designed new ideas based upon their Edison topics. Year 1 used collage to make textured fruit shapes for the Hungry Caterpillar to eat. Year 2 designed and made their own vehicles and cardboard and clay houses for their Fire of London topic. Year 3 made shadow puppets and Chinese New Year dragon puppets as well as Lego temples alongside their topic of 'Let's go on an adventure'. This year group also looked at Macro bugs and made collages based on close up heads of bugs and insects. Year 4 practised their cutting skills as we made mini skeletons and learnt about skulls and bones. Year 5 had great fun during eco-week making roller coasters and pinball machines from recyclable materials where we practised structure, shape, detail design and teamwork. Year 6 made salt dough and used this to make fossil footprints which we left to harden and dry, then paint. They also made clay bugs based on bugs from the future and the evolutionary process. Other Year groups also made lanterns to celebrate Chinese New Year and some made cards for Valentine's Day using tissue paper to coil and overlay and surround heart shaped holes.

Summer

This term has been really exciting as the children from each year group have worked on, and many have had work displayed, in our fantastic travelling Art/DT exhibition. Darlinghurst Academy teamed up with the Portico schools group to display the amazing artwork of our talented children, alongside that of the other schools. The children all had an opportunity to view the exhibition as well as parents to really see the level of talent that young people possess at our school and other schools within our community.



Alongside this, we have been working on a collaborative project with a local artist and sculptor linked to Metal Culture, to engage in the 'Art Makes Children Powerful' workshops. Philippa Stewart was the artist assigned to the project attached to our school and worked alongside myself and Miss Arnold, our Outdoor Learning Teacher, in which the children learnt traditional, historical methods from the past. We have created some amazing natural sculptures and sculptures with recyclable materials that can all add to our environment and be utilised in an ongoing manner for Art and Outdoor Learning activities. The sculptures represent a traditional roundhouse, a fish trap and a natural dwelling. We will also have our exhibition work displayed at the Leigh Art Trail this September as well as some of our Metal Culture work.

Useful websites

<https://www.stem.org.uk/home-learning/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

Design Technology Gallery

