

# GORDONBROCK PRIMARY SCHOOL

# THE ARTS BULLETIN

Edition #6 | March 2024

## THE ARTS BULLETIN

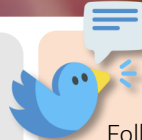
We've had another fantastic half-term of arts and cultural provision, culminating in two extraordinary ArtsFest performances, last Thursday and this Monday. Our Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 choir, along with our Federation partner's Eliot Bank's choir, performed **ArtsFest: A Story of Self-Acceptance**. Read more on page 2 and 3 of the Bulletin.

This term's art focus has been printing, and we can wait to showcase outcomes across the school after the Easter break. We included a **progression in printing** on the final page of this edition of the Bulletin, so you can see how learning becomes more complex over your child's time at Gordonbrock.

Both KS1 and KS2 were in fine voice as they performed their Big Sings to packed crowds over the last week. The Big Sings showcase a term's worth of singing teaching and learning and give the children a great opportunity to perform—a key component of our music curriculum. Thank you to those able to attend!

*M. Ridler-Mayor*

*Deputy Headteacher for Curriculum and Assessment*



## @THEARTSATGB

Follow us on Twitter ([@TheArtsatGB](https://twitter.com/TheArtsatGB)) for regular updates on arts and cultural provision at Gordonbrock. Please help us spread the word by commenting, liking or retweeting us.

## YOUR FEEDBACK

This is the sixth edition of The Arts Bulletin, and we'd love to hear your feedback.

Why not send us an email at [info@](mailto:info@) to tell us what you think?



## PROFESSIONAL HARPIST, MILO HARPER, VISITS GORDONBROCK



Gordonbrock alumni and award-winning musician, Milo Harper, wowed us just before the half-term break with a wonderful harp performance for both key stage 1 and 2. Year 5 had the amazing opportunity of a further workshop with Milo as part of their music provision.

The children were in awe at the size of the harp and Milo's technical ability as he wove mesmerising melodies with his finger tips. A huge thank you to Milo who volunteered his time to provide the children with such an enriching experience.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Playing the harp involves delicately plucking its strings, producing soothing melodies that envelop the listener. It requires precision and grace to evoke a range of emotions, from serene lullabies to triumphant crescendos.

“ We never realised a harp was so big! We thought it would have less strings, as the harps in school are much smaller. It sounded really peaceful.  
*Hope and Sebastian, Year 5* ”

“ We loved the way Milo could use his harp to make his harp sound like other instruments, such as a guitar. It was amazing to see a professional harpist in action.  
*Sula and Ernest, Year 5* ”

ELIOT BANK AND GORDONBROCK SCHOOLS FEDERATION  
PRESENT

# ArtsFest 2024

*a story of self-acceptance*

Audiences were utterly spellbound last Thursday and on Monday night, as Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock choirs joined forces for **our annual ArtsFest - a fusion of storytelling, singing performance and art.**

**A Story of Self-Acceptance**, set in a hidden glade, followed the journey of a pixie who yearned for acceptance despite her unique azure wings. Hiding them away, she wandered lost until guided by an owl to a moonlit pond. Reflecting on her true self, she embraced her wings and soared, finding belonging in her woodland world. Embracing her differences, she discovered the power of self-acceptance, echoing a truth of embracing individuality for a fulfilling existence.

A HUGE well done to all the children who took part, and a BIG thank you to our audiences for their incredible support, to our musical maestro, Mr Prescott, for leading such a stunning performance, and to all the staff who have worked behind the scenes to make ArtsFest possible. Roll on ArtsFest 2025!

I really liked that both schools came together to perform. We sang even better than in the rehearsal.  
*Carys, Year 3*

Well, it was amazing—I had no words. I felt so proud of myself and the whole choir. I was a bit nervous at the beginning, but the moment I started singing all of those nerves disappeared. Honestly, Mr Prescott is the best conductor.  
*David, Year 3*

As usual, a fantastic showcase of student talent and teachers' dedication to art and creativity. Loved it!  
*Gordonbrock Parent*



# ArtsFest 2024

“ Fantastic, very moving, the children's performance was excellent. Bravo to Mr Prescott and all the other staff for presenting such a superb show. ”

*Eliot Bank Parent*



“ Spectacular standard of performing. The singing was powerful with clear diction and confident harmony parts. A seamless production with the wow factor! ”

*Eliot Bank Parent*

## UPDATE FROM ARTS COUNCIL

The Arts Council held its first full meeting on Tuesday 5 March. Our first task was to discuss the Gordonbrock Society of the Arts.

We looked at the details of some of the members of our school community who work in the arts and discussed inviting some of them in to talk with different year groups. We had a lively conversation about the benefits each person might bring to our personal interests as well as our wider learning in the school. Hopefully, we will see some Gordonbrock Society of Arts members in school soon!

We also discussed an issue that was prevalent in a lot of applications for the Arts Council - the presence of the arts in different cultures. We shared ideas on how we might be able to explore this further than we already do within our school and thought about how this might work across the whole school rather than just within a few year groups.





## BOLLYWOOD DANCING WORKSHOPS

Year 2 had the incredible opportunity to participate in Bollywood workshops earlier this half term, providing cultural enrichment linked to their Geography unit, India. The children immersed themselves in the vibrant world of Bollywood, learning iconic dance sequences and unleashing their inner stars through the magic of music and storytelling. It was an unforgettable experience for all those involved.



## LEWISHAM MUSIC LIVE UNPLUGGED

Our newly-formed school orchestra have been invited to take part in Lewisham Music's Live Unplugged event in April. The event is an amazing evening of acoustic music performed by groups of all shapes and sizes. Live Unplugged showcases young instrumentalists and singers from across Lewisham's schools and the community. We can't wait to take part and look forward letting you know all about it in the next edition of The Arts Bulletin.



**An evening of acoustic music performed by instrumental ensembles of all shapes and sizes.**

Live Unplugged will showcase young instrumentalists from across Lewisham schools and the community. In previous years, Live Unplugged concerts have included orchestras, percussion groups, jazz bands, brass bands, string ensembles, and folk groups.

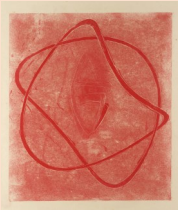
**Lewisham  
music**

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## PROGRESSION IN PRINTING FOR A YOUNG ARTIST AT GORDONBROCK

In **EYFS**, young artists learn to safely use a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. They share their creations, explaining the process they have used.

EYFS



Naum Gabo:  
[No title]

In **Year 1**, our young printmakers use objects and basic tools and equipment to make patterns and images. They print with sponges, vegetables and fruits on paper, card and textiles. They create their own block print with objects.

Y1



Sometime in 1964 I realized that I was a victim of a printmaking obsession, a condition that persists today.

**Irving Penn**

In **Year 2**, our young artists use printing techniques to create a block print on foam (carving designs).

Y2



I really love printmaking. It's like a mystery and you're trying to figure out how to rein it in.

**Kiki Smith**

Y3

In **Year 3**, printmakers use simple processes to make more complex designs, making a printing block and a two-colour print. They produce a monoprint—only one final image is made, making the technique closer to drawing or painting than other print processes.



Andy Warhol:  
Marilyn Monroe

In **Year 4**, our printmakers print using at least for colours. They can create an accurate print design with collagraphy), a process where materials are glued or sealed to a rigid substrate like cardboard.

Y4



The act of printing has always seemed to me a miracle, just such a miracle as the growing up of a tiny seed of grain to an ear - an everyday miracle, even the greater because it happens everyday. One drawing is sown on the stone or the etching plate, and a harvest is reaped from it.

**Vincent Van Gogh**

Y5



I have always wanted my art to service my people – to reflect us, to relate to us, to stimulate us, to make us aware of our potential. We have to create an art for liberation and for life.

**Elizabeth Catlett**

In **Year 5**, our printmakers print with a number of colours and create an accurate design that meets given criteria. They experiment with different styles that artists have used and print onto different materials.

Y6

In **Year 6**, our young artists create a screen print. They overprint using different colours and include technical aspects in their work.



Delita Martin: *The Waiting Field*



Elizabeth Catlett:  
(left) *My right is a future of equality with other Americans,*  
(right) *Sharecropper*