

BURNLEY SCHOOLS' PROJECT PHASE 2

FACILITATED BY THE PRINCE'S SCHOOL OF TRADITIONAL ARTS

Blessed Trinity Garden Tapestry Workshop

17 - 19 March 2010



GARDEN TAPESTRY WORKSHOP

17 - 19 MARCH 2010

During three intense days, students from year 7 came together at Blessed Trinity RC College to create a garden-themed tapestry. The young people learned about geometry, symmetry, composition and colour and put these new skills into practice.

The students were divided into 4 groups. Each group was responsible for designing, painting and stitching a set of designs. These designs were assembled by the team from The Prince's School of Traditional Arts into the garden tapestry. Each group prepared a brief presentation to explain their work during the 3 days of the workshop.

This painted and embroidered work of art will be on permanent display at the new campus in September 2010.



STUDENT COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

In answer to the question, "What did you most enjoy during the week?"

- I enjoyed it all. It was a fantastic break from classwork! My favourite part was the embroidery.
- I enjoyed painting the most this week.
- Painting. It made me take my mind off everything that was going on around me, so I could concentrate and relax. I also got to grow strong relationships.
- Stitching and painting because we all had lot of fun.
- I liked creating the tapestry, geometry and water painting, and making the Blessed Trinity sign.
- The sewing and the painting was really fun.
- I most enjoyed sewing and doing different things I couldn't normally do.
- I enjoyed the painting with both acrylic and water colours. I liked the sewing but it got slightly boring after a while. I liked making the presentation.
- Everything!
- Painting, sewing, making the rosettes, making the presentation and using charcoal. I enjoyed working with the team, painting and symmetry.
- I enjoyed stitching and everything. I also enjoyed working with people I do not know and being taught fantastically.
- Embroidering the material was my favourite thing because I was good at it, but I enjoyed everything else the same (that was just the first thing that came to my mind).
- I most enjoyed painting with the acrylic paints because I could just put my hand down and do it on my own.
- I liked everything but I liked drawing the rosettes the most.
- Painting the rosettes and untying the human knot. We didn't manage to untangle it but it was really fun.
- I enjoyed learning about different aspects of art.
- The things that I most enjoyed were the sewing and the painting of the Trinity knot as I could express myself as much as I wanted. I loved it all – it was cool!
- The sewing and painting the Trinity symbol.



What did you least enjoy doing?

- It is very hard to tell because I enjoyed all of it, but if I had to say something it would be the geometry.
- Stitching.
- Sewing – I'm not used to it but if I had a little more practice I would like it.
- Making the Blessed Trinity sign and getting pricked with a needle.
- Stitching because I got pricked ALL the time, but I got it in the end.
- This questionnaire!
- I didn't really dislike anything. It was all fun and a great opportunity to work with people from the Prince's School of Traditional Arts.
- Using the compasses because it went on too long and it was frustrating to do this. The charcoal was a bit messy.
- Nothing!
- Drawing the plants.
- The compasses work because it was very challenging and I couldn't keep up.
- Nothing! I enjoyed everything we did, even writing this!
- Nothing. I loved every minute and everything.
- I enjoyed everything.
- I least enjoyed using the compasses because of the hardness of getting the size of the circle right.
- Even though I am thinking very hard I can't think of anything because it was just so fun and enjoyable.



What have you learned to do and learned about this week?

- How to use acrylic paint, how to use a paintbrush properly, how to apply colour thick and thin, how to draw our school logo using geometry, how to work as a team.
- Water colour and acrylic painting, how to use compasses, how to trace and copy a picture.
- What nature brings to us and what a wonder it is.
- How to work as a team. (Several said this).
- How to make our school logo. (Several said this).
- How to stitch and use compasses, and how to make a vesica.
- Colour blending, using compasses, how a leaf has branches.
- How much fun it is to make something like this tapestry.
- How to do different stitches, what a rosette is, about nature and structures and the leaves and petals, how to draw a perfect circle.
- How using circles can create lots of different things, to draw and capture the shapes of plants, how a good composition makes a good picture.
- Textures, tones, water-colouring, how to speak American because of Lisa.
- So much that I have run out of space on the page!
- I have learned to be an all-rounder at art.
- Don't force the compasses round, take your time in what you do, think before you do something, don't be scared to ask for help.
- I've learned that art is a slow process and is very, very fun!
- How to paint better, sew better and work better in groups.
- I've learned many things like sewing, nature and art, how to make the Trinity symbol, how to blend colours and more about myself.

TEACHERS' COMMENTS

Teachers'/TAs' evaluations

It was three days spent on enjoyment and fun in a very relaxing environment. The best thing about the workshop was the fact that I was allowed to sit together with the pupils and create pieces of drawing and embroidery. This has helped me to experience the workshop from the child's point of view and I have been impressed how a very complex project was made easy and accessible and fun to the children. The final result was impressive and it was a real pleasure to see children taking such pride in their achievement.
(Gosha Gibek)

I felt that the workshop for the 'Garden Tapestry' has been really insightful, both in the way that the subject was broken down for the students and also the purposeful activities planned. I think it had the right level of challenge for the students and the artists/teachers really were amazing and inspirational. I felt the students responded very positively to the team.

The workshop will, I feel, inform my future teaching practice in many ways. The sessions were well organised, the timing of the activities worked and the pupils were never bored. I have had a great three days and would love to be involved in anything in the future.
(Bridgette Connolly)





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