



## School of Rock – not so much a show, more a year long journey...

I have to be fair and confess that this show was not my idea. Mrs Pout is to blame! 2 1/2 years ago she informed me that it was possible to get a licence to perform this fantastic West End show in schools. I wasn't initially impressed with what she was suggesting I take on! Lounge on the Field was not my idea 5 years ago either (it was Mrs Godden's), but in my time at Joy Lane I have learnt this about myself: if someone dares me to do something, I can't resist! A year later I finally pitched it to Mrs Harkins as the next Year 6 production. With 18 months to go, she keenly secured the licence. Our trip to London in September sealed the deal and gave everyone involved the chance to see what heights we were aspiring to.

The first hurdle in this project was who might play our Dewey: the lazy, dreamer who accidentally takes a class of well-mannered children and turns them into Rock Stars, giving his meaningless life a purpose, finally. The size of the 110 page script was daunting and the sheer amount of lines that Dewey has to learn meant a very special child was needed. There is no doubt that Year 6 have worked as a team, with so much

commitment shown by the children, but we have all felt that without our phenomenal Dewey, Dottie, we would have only had half a show. So before I write any more, I simply must say; everyone is in awe of your acting skills, your memory for lines and your drive to make this a success. Thank you, Dottie, on behalf of everyone at Joy Lane.

Most schools (but since when were we most schools?) and definitely all Primary schools attempting School of Rock would have used the optional pre-recorded backing music. Not us! As well as this being a Year 6 production, the other purpose of this venture was to allow 35 of the advanced Year 4, 5 & 6 musicians the chance to play live on stage whilst acting or in our pit band. It is so unlike a traditional concert when you can start when you are ready. The pressure to begin a song exactly when you hear a given word from an actor is immense, but I am so very proud to say that every musician has excelled. We have spent many months learning songs that are complicated and beyond what they were capable of playing at the start of the year. George in Year 5 is another student who has carried much more than his fair weight of responsibility in this project. He was tasked with learning all the on stage guitar parts and many pit band songs too. George

never once shied away from this mammoth ask and his guitar skills have flourished as a result. Every musician involved can say the same – they are twice the players they were before this project began, because they make it look so effortless to the audience. I can assure you that it is not!

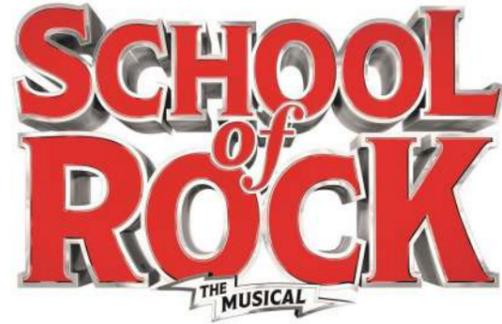
We rehearsed a different song every week all year, with the relevant actors and musicians staying after school. Just how many biscuits and ice poles we got through is a mystery (Kayla!), but I think my fondest memory when this is all over will be the evenings when magic happened in the Abbey Road Music Room. I will always remember hearing the show-stoppers 'You're In The Band', 'Teacher's Pet' and 'Stick It To The Man' played, sung and danced right through for the first time and seeing the absolute delight and pride on the children's faces as we got a glimpse of the epic show we were creating. I hope those cherished memories stay with them all too, as they get ready to leave us very soon.

A 2 hour show is daunting and exhausting. Just the two full final rehearsals and the three performances have meant ten hours of teamwork. I can honestly say the behaviour and commitment of this year's Year 6 is unparalleled. You have made this such a special show. By the final song everyone is on their feet and clapping along. You deserve that applause.

Here are a few gems: I loved the moment Dewey said 'Get me my bag!' and was handed the wrong bag, containing someone else's props. Some excellent ad-libbing followed and the correct bag was eventually slung on stage. A parent told me that their child had rushed home, enthusiastic to make his costume, but without asking he took a whole brand new school uniform from its packet, cut it up to make his Rock outfit and proudly showed his mum the finished article. It was fabulous, so he was forgiven.

The costumes do look fantastic (thank you parents). The props (that Ms Rennells magics up every year), the scenery (including a dingy dive bar in the Music Room), the huge stage (thank you Herne Bay High,

Langton Girls and Boys Schools) and the lighting (run by Year 6 themselves) all create an atmosphere that is way more than what you'd expect from a Year 6 end of year production. But why would anyone expect any less? Joy Lane didn't just stage 'The School of Rock', we are 'The School of Rock'.



July 2019

## Welcome to the Summer Edition of Term Times 2019

*As we draw to a sunny end of another successful year of learning for our children at Joy Lane I am delighted to present to you our final edition of the summer term times of this academic year.*

*The children have had another successful year of learning and fun of which you will read more of inside..... this includes children starring in a national television show of the BBC's 'Top Class' to exhibiting at the Horsebridge in Whitstable, Beach Creative in Herne Bay and of course, the Turner Contemporary in Margate. In addition, the children have been inspired by a visiting Olympian, won an award for our school newspaper, The Oystercatcher and participated in our School of Rock production. Wow!! Please read all about this and more inside.....*

*I am incredibly proud of our children and in equal measure, our wonderful dedicated, talented staff who are able to weave their magic with your children and ensure the children make the most of the learning opportunities offered to them.*

*Our School Business Manager, Mr Henderson-Varlin, has introduced a new online system called 'Parent Mail'. You will have been invited to join and create your account and I would urge you to do so. This system supports payments for all aspects of school life and is our new portal for booking all extended school services - he will share with you further information on how to access all the services.*

*The past year has been a little tricky for schools in relation to Government funding and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support in this area and of course, your continued support of our School.*

*On behalf of the Staff and Governors, I would like to wish you all a very happy, healthy and safe summer break and look forward to welcoming you all back on September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2019.*

*Debra Hines  
Executive Headteacher*

*Ms D J Hines*

## Isle of Wight Residential

Once again, the Year 6s packed their bags, stocked up on sweets and headed off on their adventures to the sunny Isle of Wight. Kayaking, as always a popular highlight, saw the children (and adults) test muscles they never even knew they had as they paddled off into the blue lagoon. New activities lay in wait to test the children's endurance and determination: the Vertical Challenge involved climbing up ladders and over obstacles to reach a tyre at the top whilst



Survivor let the children test the survival skills that they had learnt during our English lessons on Kensuke's Kingdom by starting a fire and building dens in the woods. As usual, the disco and evening games were a great opportunity for the children to spend time together and relax at the end of extremely busy days.

Meanwhile, back at school, the children who did not attend the residential took part in a military day with Mrs Rawlings, practising their skills of camouflage and stealth. All in all, a great reward for their hard work up to and during SATs.

## Highly Commended!

After another great year, Joy Lane's School newspaper The Oystercatcher is sad to say goodbye to its loyal Year 6 reporters, but very excited to announce that we have won the honour of "Highly Commended Entry" in the FirstNews School Newspaper of the Year Awards 2018-19. I'm sure many of you have seen the FirstNews paper, which is an award-winning newspaper read by over 2 million 7 to 14 year olds every week. I'm sure you'll agree that the award is a fantastic recognition of all the hard work of our Oystercatcher team. Dr Manson and Mrs Kyle are so proud of their reporters' efforts and commitment this year and can't wait to see what news next year brings...



## Peter Bakare



On 26th June, the children of Joy Lane were treated to a guest visit from Great Britain's Olympic volleyball player, Peter Bakare. He was really inspiring and the children were completely captivated during his assembly.

He was not just here to see the children though; he also supported and motivated the children through their fundraising fitness circuits. Every child in the school took part in the fundraising event and we are pleased to share with you the fantastic news that they managed to raise around £1,500.00, which will go towards new sports equipment for the children to enjoy in the very near future. Well done children!

## Harrier Lodge Care Home Visits

Since Joy Lane Primary School pupils won a competition to name a suite at Harrier Lodge Care Home last year, our links with them have become stronger than ever. This year has seen us counting birds as part of the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch, singing at the Grand Launch and reading to the residents on World Book Day.

More recently, a group of Year 6 children has been visiting Harrier Lodge for weekly hour-long sessions over Term 6. During this time, the children have engaged with the residents in a range of activities such as singing and quizzes.

In addition to this, a group of Year 2 children were invited to take part in an Open Day at the Care Home on

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June. As part of this special event, the children took part in activities based around the arts, including painting, music and dancing. The children loved getting messy, having their hands painted to contribute to a group canvas painting!



The staff at Harrier Lodge have noticed the impact of our many visits to the Care Home, and we hope that these experiences see our children build relationships with the residents, ultimately understanding the importance of community links and caring for others.

## Joy Lane Summer Fair

The Friends of Joy Lane took to the annual task of organising the School Fair and it was decided late last year that we would like to have a theme and the choice was made to go along the 'Harry Potter' line. This sent a lot of excitement around and about especially within FJL as we had some massive Harry Potter fans within the team!

We made the entrance gate the 9 3/4 station entrance, which I hope lots of people enjoyed running through the wall, where you were then met by the Hogwarts Express, Harry, Dumbledore and Hagrid (as well as Mr Ashley-Jones and Ms Hines to help!)

We then changed some of our traditional stalls to become magical and we put on potion lessons and wand lessons - Mr O'Keeffe and Mrs Gaze took their roles very seriously coming in full HP attire and delivered an amazing wand lesson.

We had the owls wandering around for all to see and some dance displays and music, including a staff band.

I hope everyone enjoyed this year's Fair; I personally think it ran really well and was lovely to see lots of faces enjoying themselves, especially soaking Mr Malkinson and Mrs Luckhurst!

The Fair takes a lot of our time and commitment beforehand, as well as on the day, and I would like to thank the FJL members for their help and support. I would also like to thank the staff for giving up their Saturday to help.

The Friends of Joy Lane always welcomes new members. You may prefer to just offer support at our events or, if you can spare the time, attend meetings and help with the organisation of events. Please come and find me or, alternatively, email with your details – extra hands are always appreciated.

We raise money for all sorts of things for the School, from small scale items like playground games and water bottles to big items like the minibus, this year we will be donating some money to the Swimming Pool to help with the refurbishment.

## Sports Week

This year's Sports Week was a week filled with lots of fantastic sporting events for everyone to get involved in during the first few days the teachers were able to show the Year 6's just how good they still are at sport! Year 6 fielded a very strong squad of netballers and there was a moment, early on in the match, when the teachers were genuinely concerned that they might come out second best. Well done to all the Year 6 netballers; you were amazing!

Boys' football was another close game between Year 6 and the teachers and again there were times when the score could've gone either way.

Unfortunately for the children, it went yet again in favour of the teachers (phew). With the women's World Cup headlining the Nation's viewing, the Year 6 girls were excited for their game against an all female staff team. The girls played exceptionally well but the teachers had an insider on their team who knew how the girls were likely to play. All the teams played with great skill and sportsmanship and were fantastic role models to the rest of the School.



Another feature of Sports Week was the introduction of our own World Cups and Swimming Galas (Lower School and Upper School). The children competed with enthusiasm and a healthy competitiveness that showcased them to the best of their abilities. Some of the days even kick-started with a routine by our very own Wake Up, Shake Up team who led a playground full of children who were eager to get active.

Of course, Sports Week wouldn't be complete without Sports Day. With the School being as large as it is, Sports Days were split over three days. Having been part of them all, I can gratefully say that these were very successful events, and the children really embraced the whole experience and did themselves proud.

The whole week was incredible and we hope that next year might be even better!

## Staff vs Year 6 Netball

A fantastic game with the Year 6s being matched in intensity and enthusiasm by the staff team. Both sides played professionally and well. Year 6 showed themselves to be fast, exuberant and fearless, though in the end, youth lost out against the experience and stamina displayed by the staff team. All in all, an excellent match full of drama and speed.



## Staff vs Year 6 Boys Football

Really great match full of thrills and spills. Year 6 were excellent showing speed, determination and their excellent head for the game; they were unfazed by the "authoritas" of the opposing staff team. The staff played passionately, excelling themselves on the pitch and keeping pressure on Year 6 for the duration of the game.



## April Fool

Congratulations to anyone who spotted the deliberate April Fools' Joke on the Easter Edition of Term Times saying Summer 2018 despite the beautiful Easter picture. We took our lead from the children's Oyster Catcher and their pieces of fake news especially about Easter.

Well done.



## The Plight of the Bee

Sam Day visited us on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May to introduce the plight of the Asian Hornet bee to Joy Lane. We discussed what the job of the bee is and why. Having identified other insects which also



pollinate flowers we also made the connection between our

favourite fruit and how it is produced with the hard work of bees. We were shown an image of an Asian Hornet bee and told to remember its key characteristics: mostly dark, one yellow band and yellow legs. Sam informed us about the life cycle of an Asian Hornet during each season, winter, spring, summer and autumn. Their nest size was compared to that of a golf ball at the beginning, growing to that of a football. Our brains were teased with some maths questions to try and calculate the growing number of nests. In 2008, there were 9,765,625 Asian Hornet nests. Finally, Sam asked us to keep watch for these bees in sheds, gardens and picnic areas.



## Moore go down to the woods today!

Moore Group Room visited a local bluebell wood as part of our science work on seasons. We travelled on the



School minibus to Druidstone Park, Blean in May. We were overwhelmed with the fragrance and the beautiful carpet of blue flowers. We enjoyed losing ourselves in the wood and finding our way back! It was a fantastic opportunity for our children to enjoy a wonderful sensory experience and share it with their friends in Oysters. The Park also has a small farm and we were thrilled to see some baby lambs amongst the other animals. All of the children thoroughly enjoyed the trip and haven't stopped talking about it since.

## Leeds Castle

In Term 5, Year 1 was incredibly excited for a trip to Leeds Castle. We prepared by learning all about castles and the different features they have and were keen to get going so we could spot the portcullis and arrow slit windows on a real castle! We were also incredibly excited for lunch and the play park (of course!) and these did not disappoint. We enjoyed a special workshop all about the Swan Princess where we all got to dress up and parade through the gardens where, unfortunately, Van Gogh Class got photobombed by a peacock! We got to explore the castle where we put all of our learning to the test and the staff at Leeds Castle were not only impressed by our knowledge but our beautiful manners too. What a fantastic trip!



## Year 5 Visit the Tower!

Year 5 set off on Leo's Coaches to experience 'Crime and Punishment' at the Tower of London! We were greeted by a rather severe looking Beefeater.

There were chicken wire statues of lions at the gatehouse – part of the menagerie of animals given to various monarchs over the years. What do you give a King or Queen as a present? These exotic animals were moved and actually started the London Zoo.

It was a little wet when we arrived but that did not seem to dampen the children's enthusiasm.

Imagine being led into the Tower of London through Traitor's Gate to be imprisoned in the White Tower. Your last look at freedom as you glance back as the gates close! It must have been a sobering thought but



in reality, it was the VIP prisoners who stayed at the Tower and were

executed there. Some prisoners were interrogated there but most were taken to Tower Hill to be executed – a very public exhibition of brutality, which was supposed to act as a deterrent. Walter



Raleigh 'lived' in the 'Bloody Tower' for many years in comparative comfort. Anne Boleyn was granted a relatively quiet execution on Tower Green as a mark of respect. She was one of only 10 executions there. The final execution was a German spy during World War II and this chair shows that the bullet went straight through him and out the other side. Rather gruesome but an interesting fact. The final prisoners were the Kray Twins who spent several nights in custody for failing to turn up for conscription and for punching a guard. Strangely enough, the guard could not remember which twin punched him so the charges were dropped!



It is said that if the ravens leave the Tower of London, Britain and the Monarchy will fall so they are very well looked after with aviaries to sleep in - except one who has a private bird box because he does not like crowds. The Royal Mint was housed in the Tower of London to begin with before moving just outside the gates. We didn't realise just how important the Tower was to British history since 1066 when William the Conqueror became King and made London the hub of his kingdom.

The children waited so patiently to see the Crown Jewels. The last coronation was 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1953 but our pupils may well see two coronations in their lifetime – Charles and William.

Unfortunately, there was no photography but Jake G said how good the display was while waiting - it occupied the time well. We really do queue well. An American visitor to London said, "Howdie Ma'am, looks like you have your hands full with so many children. Have a nice day now!" We reciprocated and wished him a lovely time and hoped it stopped raining – which it did!

Finally, the interactive part of the display looking at different ways to protect a castle, which obviously worked as the Tower was built in 1078 and remains to this day.

William the Conqueror would have been very proud of his legacy.

Talking of pride, Year 5 behaved so well despite the weather. They were polite, interested and a pleasure to take to London. Thank you to all the adults who accompanied us but especially our Parent Helpers who made it possible – Mrs Polley and Mrs Brocklehurst.

P Bell



## Castle Banquet

To celebrate the end of our topic on Castles, Year 1 enjoyed a wonderful morning at a Castle Banquet. We tried out some medieval dancing, had a go at some medieval games and even became jesters to tell poor friends some jokes. We dressed in our finest clothes and enjoyed a feast to celebrate the occasion.



## Joy Lane go to Port Lympe

Firstly, we put on our bright yellow jackets and headed outside to get onto the giant coach quickly. When we got on the coach everybody was chatting "go faster" or "over take them!"



After that we got there, we got to go on a large, brilliant safari truck ride. We saw a speedy ostrich, a lazy rhino and a long-necked giraffe. Then we had a scrumptious picnic and played in the miniature park. If we looked over the fence we could see some cute, small meerkats and we also saw a camouflaged palas cat, a sleepy lioness and a stripy tiger. After that we went to the colossal dinosaur forest. We saw tiny baby dinos, ferocious adult dinosaurs and even a huge dinosaur bone.

We when left the park, our group got lost and we had to get a truck back to basecamp. Finally, Year 2 went back on the big white coach. My favourite part was seeing the animals, especially the cute, fluffy meerkats.

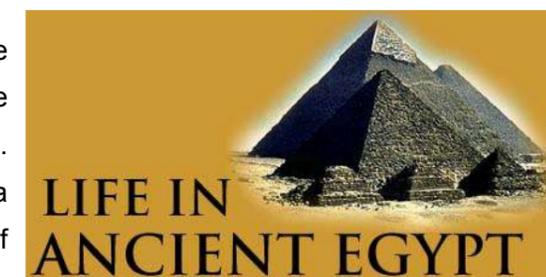
What an exciting day it was!

By ThePrawnMuncher Year 2

## Living History

Year 4 were lucky enough to start their new topic about the Egyptians with a hands on day at the beginning of Term 5. Living Histories turned our Lower School Hall back in time 3000 years so that the children could experience first hand what life was like in Egyptian times. The children got to play Egyptian games, make cartouches, handle replica Egyptian artefacts, weave reed as they would have done on the River Nile, and write a message in hieroglyphics. After lunch, the year group learnt about mummification with a real life demonstration! Pharaoh Logan did a fantastic job of playing dead whilst he was taken through the mummification process. The children loved discovering how the internal organs were removed and why this happened. We finished with a competition between the three classes playing a traditional Egyptian game and answering questions about what we had learnt. A brilliant way to start our history topic due to the gore and fun!!! Thank you Living Histories for bringing Egypt to JLPS!

Mrs K Stanley



## Bugsy Malone

Year 5 'strolled' up the hill to The Whitstable School to watch a wonderful version of Bugsy Malone directed by Mr S Giles. It was lovely to see some 'old' faces, although I realise old is a relative term.

What was wonderful about this production was the obvious enjoyment The Whitstable School pupils had whilst performing: - fine singing, good dancing, captivating acting and some brilliant comic timing.

Thank you to all the adults who came to support our walk especially Mrs Polley and Mrs Brocklehurst. It was a lovely opportunity for our Year 11 work experience pupils to compare performances at different schools.



## Inspirational Sports Coach Retiring

I am sure that you are all aware that the amazing Bill Good is retiring at the end of this academic year which, on one hand is brilliant for him as he will have the opportunity to spend more time with his family; however, from a selfish point of view, I and many other colleagues, will be extremely sad to see him leave. Not only has Bill been a fantastic member of staff to have work in our Autism Provision, he has also been a constant figure on the football pitch. No matter what the weather, Bill will always be seen outside on the field with a group of children playing football. My fondest memory of Bill has to be when we had just had a huge amount of snow fall onto our school field. Unsurprisingly, Bill did not cancel football club, and had all the children performing snow angels as a warm-up.

You will be missed Bill, and by no-one more so than me.

Mr Rogers

Football Assistant to Bill Good

## 33 Years!

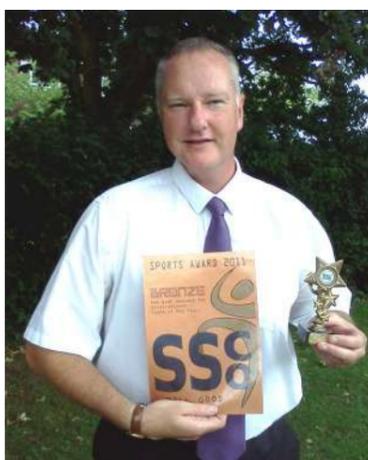
Mrs Oakley has been at Joy Lane for 33 years and has taught us pretty much everything we know! She has dedicated so much of her time to Joy Lane and been a great support to staff, pupils and parents alike. Nothing is ever too much trouble for

Mrs Oakley; she has an extremely caring nature, she is also firm but fair in her interactions with the children and gains their respect, as well as having a fun sense of

humour which often makes the children laugh. Nothing is ever too much trouble for

Mrs Oakley and she can turn her hand to anything, her specialism is manning the gate in her yellow jacket and being outside in all weathers! She has a wealth of experience and has seen many changes throughout her time at Joy Lane. We have all created lots of special memories with Mrs Oakley, and she has many a story to tell. She will be sorely missed by us all at Joy Lane. Mrs Oakley, we all wish you a very happy and healthy retirement. Now it is time for you!

Mrs J Elbourn



2011 Bronze Award  
Inspirational Sports Coach of the Year



Mrs Oakley many many years ago!

## Top Class!

On Tuesday 21st May, five Year 6 children, their parents, Mr Rogers and Dr Manson travelled by train to BBC Scotland in Glasgow to film an episode of BBC's Top Class.

Top Class is a show that pits a team of four Year 6s and their teacher against another school. Just sixteen schools from around the UK qualified for the televised finals. Agnes, Dottie, Sam, Ruby and Cleo had been revising National Curriculum topics for weeks before the big day. They did the school proud with their determination and resilience, coming up against a team that got the highest score in the show's history thanks to their quick buzzing! Mr Rogers organised everything and described the experience as "an amazing opportunity for the children to discover what really goes on behind the scenes before the camera rolls." (He secretly enjoyed his time in hair and make up as well!).

We will keep you informed of when the show will air on the BBC.



## Sports Awards 2018/19

This year, as part of our connection to the School Games organisation, we were invited to nominate children for various different Sports Awards. We are very happy and proud to announce that some of the children at Joy Lane were successful and have received certificates to celebrate their achievements.

Hayden was awarded with runner up in the Commitment to Sport group for his continued football success with Gillingham FC.

Kayla was awarded a winner's certificate for her personal achievements in swimming with some incredibly competitive times in a recent competition.

Our Key Stage 1 Wake Up and Shake Up team also won the winners certificate for Key Stage 1 Team of the Year by placing a very commendable third in their dance competition.

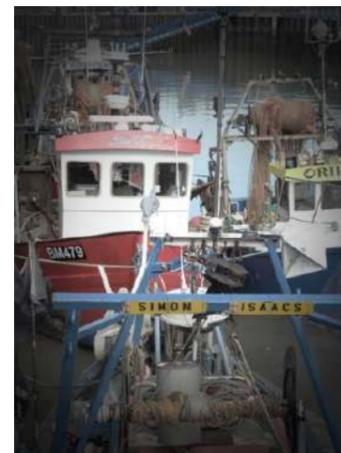
The final winning team was our very own year 6 Sports Leaders who were recognised for their ongoing help and support with sport in our school. They were fantastic during all the sports days and helped teach some PE by developing lessons and then delivering them under the watchful eye of

Mrs Luckhurst. Well done team!

There was also a special letter written for our Key Stage 2 Basketball Team who came second in a local competition by just one point. We are very proud of them and their silver medals!



# Art @JLPS



## St Anne's Carpet Bedding Competition 2018/19

Over the course of the year, Joy Lane has participated in various competitions and art exhibitions open to local schools. As part of the community, Canterbury City Council invited our lovely artists to design a flower border for St Anne's in Whitstable. Our entries were very original, colourful and followed the theme of 'Animals'. In fact they were so impressive that one of our designs stood out above the rest and was awarded to be the winning design. Well done Kimberley R Year 6! We also have four highly commended;

Nora D, Kitty P, Josh D S and Alfie GS, they will all receive a prize of vouchers.



## Turner Contemporary 'Seaside Photographed'

Well done to our Joy Lane artists who were chosen to take photographs of our seaside town, Whitstable, as part of the CACoT Schools and Turner Contemporary collaboration. It has been an exciting project in



which the children were invited to present their work to the Gallery, attend a Curator's day and choose the photos and themes for an exhibition in the Turner Gallery space. Our photographers, with children from the coastal schools, created their own exhibition which was displayed by the amazing team at the Turner, led by the

Education Officer Jennifer Scott. This project has been building over many months and the final show was well worth all the hard work. Not

surprisingly, many visitors didn't believe that the photos displayed were taken by primary school children, and it was overheard that many of the pictures were better than the main exhibition!

## Art Jamboree at Beach Creative



Hopefully, during half term, you were able to visit Beach Creative, Herne Bay to see the bright and colourful eclectic mix of artwork created by the CACoT schools. It is advantageous that the exhibition is funded by Beach Creative and The Rotary Club of Herne Bay, which allows our children to have the opportunity to display work in a busy public gallery. The exhibition brightened up the café walls and received many positive comments from the public and art visitors to the gallery. We were very proud, once again, to show off the creative talent from our amazing

Joy Lane artists.

