**Wolves Class Visit – Autumn 23**

As I arrived into Wolves class the children were gathered around a tuff tray on the floor. They were all sat quietly and were listening carefully to the teacher. Staff within the class were sat with the children that need the extra support during the lesson. During the activity of identifying what art supplies were in the tuff tray the children took turns to answer questions putting their hands up and listening to each other. This was a lovely simple activity to start the Art day with and got the children engaged and really interested in what they would be doing for the rest of the day.

The class were then shown a picture by the artist Sonja Delauney and asked what colours they could see? The children answered verbally but were also encouraged to sign the colours too.

Next the children were to play a game were pictures by the artist were put up around the room and music played. When the music stopped the children should go to the picture and show a happy or sad face based on how the picture made them feel. This was a great interactive activity that linked both the artist they would be studying for the day along with their emotional regulation work. The children were asked why they liked or didn’t like the picture and they all gave very sensible and observant reasons. Through different rounds the children went to pictures in pairs and then discussed together their reasons, a great communication and confidence booster speaking in different situations to peers and adults.

The children had been fully introduced to their art day with these activities and were then asked to tiptoe back to their desks. Once seated they completed a couple of breathing activities in order to regulate after such an active session. They then had a powerpoint about the artist Sonja Delauney. They learnt how she used art and movement and would listen to classical music whilst she painted. This was then the next activity, they would listen to different styles of classical music and use their pens on paper to interpret the movement through swirls and lines etc. A lovely multi-sensory activity that the children really enjoyed and were really proud of the work they produced wanting to take it home to show parents/carers.

Some children worked independently whilst others required extra support however staff where fully aware of where to be and who to assist and when. A couple of children wore ear defenders to aid the session with the music. As the activity ended the teacher changed the music to a calming tune to signal the end of the session. One little boy came up to me to show me his work and I asked if he had enjoyed the morning he replied “it was fun!”

The teacher then played relaxing autumn music to regulate the children before recapping what they had done and telling the class what they would be doing after break and for the rest of the day. It was a fantastic well planned, appropriate start to the Wolves class Art day, I only wish I could have stayed to enjoy the whole day with them.