



“The Culture Challenge at The Linden”

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to tell you about an exciting challenge that we would like you and your children to take up!

As a school, we have signed up to work towards a creative quality standard for schools, accredited by the Arts Council England, known as ARTSMARK. The aim is to incorporate Art and Culture into every pupil's life and learning.

Our Statement of Commitment to achieving the standard has been accepted and we now have up to two years to deliver and develop our goals and objectives, including submitting a Case Study.

How are we going to achieve our goals?

1. By developing the Creative Curriculum to include more “hands-on” activities and “experiences”.
2. Introducing children to ‘The Culture Challenge’.
3. Developing an “Arts Week” for each year group every half-term from September 2018.

We have already implemented step 1 in school within classrooms and today I am telling you about Step 2:

The Culture Challenge aims to encourage you and your children to explore, experience, enjoy and make great art and culture.

Overleaf you will find a Culture Challenge Checklist and the idea is that if you visit somewhere or take part in a cultural activity your child can tick it off their list and aim for an award.

Take part in 5 challenges for Bronze, 10 for Silver, 15 for Gold and 20 for Platinum.

Each class has been given a “Culture Bear”. If your child knows in advance where they are going they can ask to take Culture Bear home and have a photograph taken which they can then bring into school in order to talk about their experience. The photo will then go into a class scrapbook. We are hoping that at some point each child will be able to have the opportunity to take Culture Bear on a visit.

The picture shows our first bear having a little rest taking on the first trial outing on behalf of The Linden Bear team! He visited the Norfolk Coastal path at Winterton-on-Sea.

The Bedfordshire Culture Challenge website will give you more ideas

www.culturechallenge.co.uk

We look forward to seeing what cultural adventures and experiences our class Culture Bears are going to be experiencing!

Yours faithfully

Mrs L B Fagan

TLA Artsmark Lead

