Art Transition Work 2024

The Art department are really excited that you have chosen Art as one of your A level options. We all love teaching this specification; it gives you plenty of time to learn new processes, to experiment, take risks and understand where your strengths lie.

To help you make the best start, over the summer we like you to think about a theme that you are really interested in, one you may potentially want to pursue for your Personal Investigation in Year 12 and 13. Don’t worry at this stage if you think you may change your mind but do select a theme you are really inspired by. Be ambitious – you may have an idea you are a little daunted by, but we are here to support you and to help you realise your intentions. The theme will form the basis for some of the early work we do at the start of Year 12 so having an idea in mind will enable you to make confident start to the term.

Personal Investigation ideas:

Themes students have explored in the past have been linked to distortion, natural and manmade objects, movement, portraiture (eg. facial features, expressions, character, emotions, mental health, altered faces etc), architecture, science and art (eg anatomy, microscopic organisms), or you may enjoy studying a particular art movement, artist or theme – titles could be Aging, Patterns in Nature, Sleep, How does colour Enhance Emotion in Art? Picasso – his work and his influences, Fragmentation.

**Summer Task**

Over the summer, please consider 1-3 possible Personal Investigation themes that interests and inspires you. In September, you will be sharing your Investigation ideas with us so be ready to discuss the following:

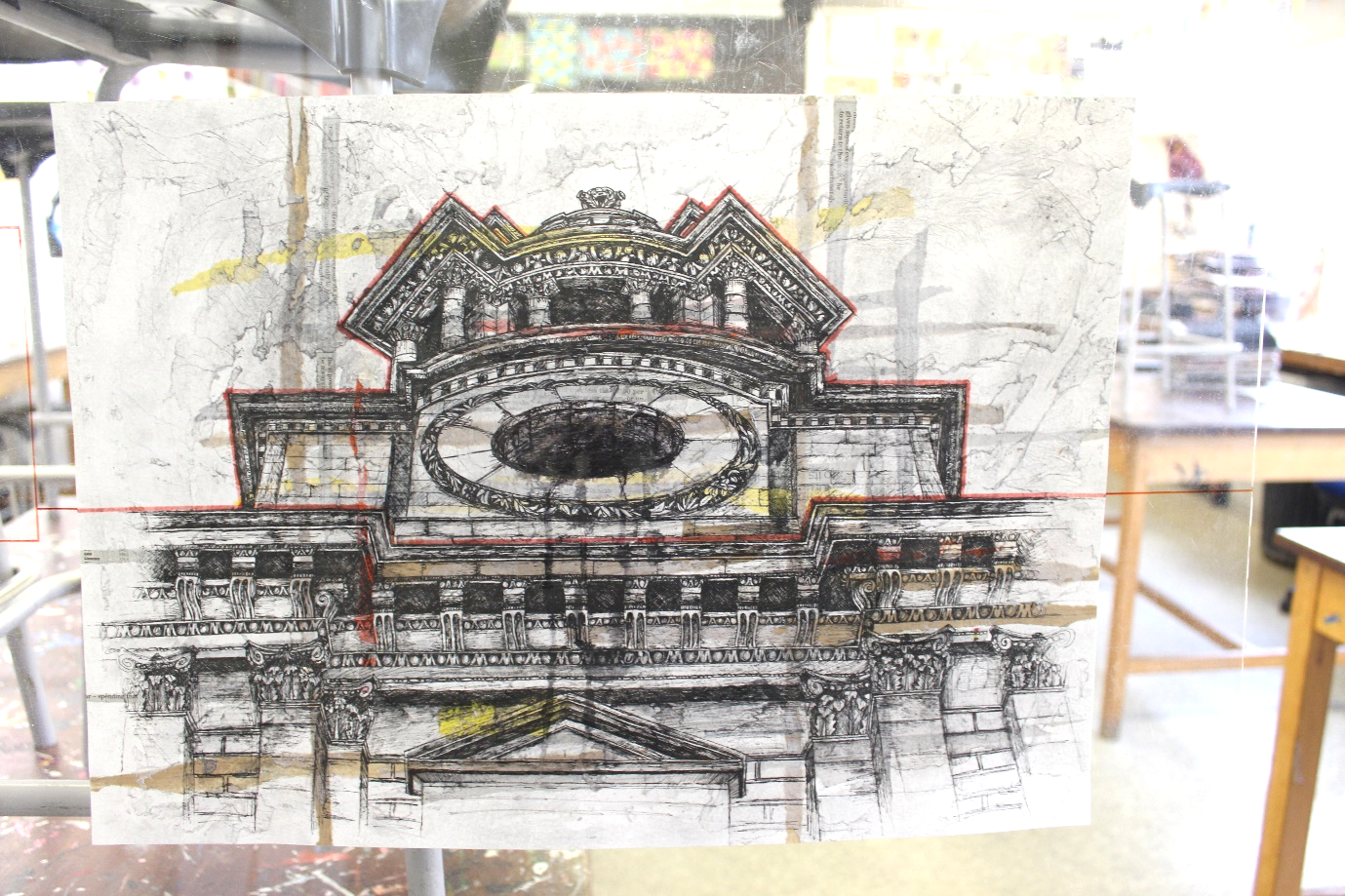
* Your proposed personal investigation theme or title (1-3 options….it is fine if you are undecided)
* Artists who link to your theme – find out about their inspiration and the meaning behind their work, and who inspires them, what media do they use and what scale is their work.
* Create a Pinterest board for each of your themes – include examples of artists work and imagery that you would include as observations to link to your investigation.
* Produce a collection of photographs that link to your chosen theme. We will be using these photos to work from in class during the project so please do not stick them down but keep loose at this stage.

(Aim to have 10-20 images – think about close up’s, texture, unusual viewpoints, angles, emotions (if appropriate), lighting etc.

Optional / recommended tasks: We would like to encourage you to maintain your creative practice over the summer recording ideas, drawing, trying out media you are less familiar with, watching online tutorials and learning about the subject. You may wish to produce some small or large studies that relate to your personal investigation. You may choose a close-up drawing of a texture or detail or the whole subject matter (for example an eye study and a whole face).

Please also try and visit at least 1 art gallery. Seeing art first hand is enriching and is a great source of inspiration and often springboards new ideas! We can highly recommend the Royal Academy’s Summer exhibition, The Tate Modern, Tate Britain, The National portrait gallery, The national Gallery, street art in Shoreditch……have a look and see what exhibitions are on near you!

Any questions please email me on: c.skeates@holt.wokingham.sch.uk



The same student took these photos over the summer that related to her architecture theme. She took them whilst out locally and on day trips further afield. They successfully show interesting compositions, details and viewpoints.

These are examples of summer work – one is a close up detail from a mosaicked building, another a more expressive observation of the whole building. Work in any media you wish but aim for an accurate observation.