

Art making with Dawn



Arts for all 2026 proved to be a very uplifting term with various points of engagement, learning and mindfulness. As a therapeutic art practitioner I facilitate programs that not only highlight the 1000 languages of children but also provide them with the opportunity for self exploration and expression. I find programs that address different senses to be very engaging to younger children, giving them a layered experience in art making and a sense of autonomy

At McMaster this term we did a variety of activities that introduced the children to different ways of colouring, molding and expressing themselves creatively.

Let's begin here.

I found one instrument - a simple fly swatter in the shape of a hand, created such fun sensory play for the infants, engaging them in creating textures imprints. I even introduced them to roll back cars, letting them explore making marks by sliding the car through the paint.



Another exploration in paint including dot paint scraping. Where we dropped different dots of paint and used popsicle sticks to scrape the colour down.



Sensory Play!

i introduced this activity again with another class and gave them clay and popsicle sticks to add to the exploration !



We did some self portraits which were more explorations into colours and themes that they liked. For this activity I present them with a stick figure and a stand and asked them to use airdry clay to create themselves or things they like. It almost looked like multiple characters from Trolls!! Full of fun, laughter and light!



Art is Fun!

One week they had the opportunity to play with wax sticks - making shapes with them and exploring how they feel.



On the thought of bright colours, I chose neon coloured cardstock to introduce this term as I wanted to lively things up! These colours were such a hit. They used them when exploring scissors and hole punchers along with the thought of cutting out art to paste it back on in a different way.

All The Colours

I found the washi tape really helped to carry this activity to another level of cut, glue and paste.





I introduced the the kids to contact paper again when creating personal flags and gave them different embellishments for them to stick on. These flags were such a fun and engaging form of self expression!

A creative space is a safe space



I ended the term with a fun day of hydro dripping in which the children explored the relationship between oil and water and bath fizzy colours. They were so intrigued to see how their papers took baths in their concoctions, adding pieces of bleeding tissue paper to add more colour.



We also had the opportunity to build on our sensory play, creating textile art work on coloured foam. This was a fun day using glue to add different embellishments from pompoms, to popsicle sticks and glitter pens.

Grateful

*This is a lil peak
at the end of term
display
showcasing all
their beautiful
work.*

