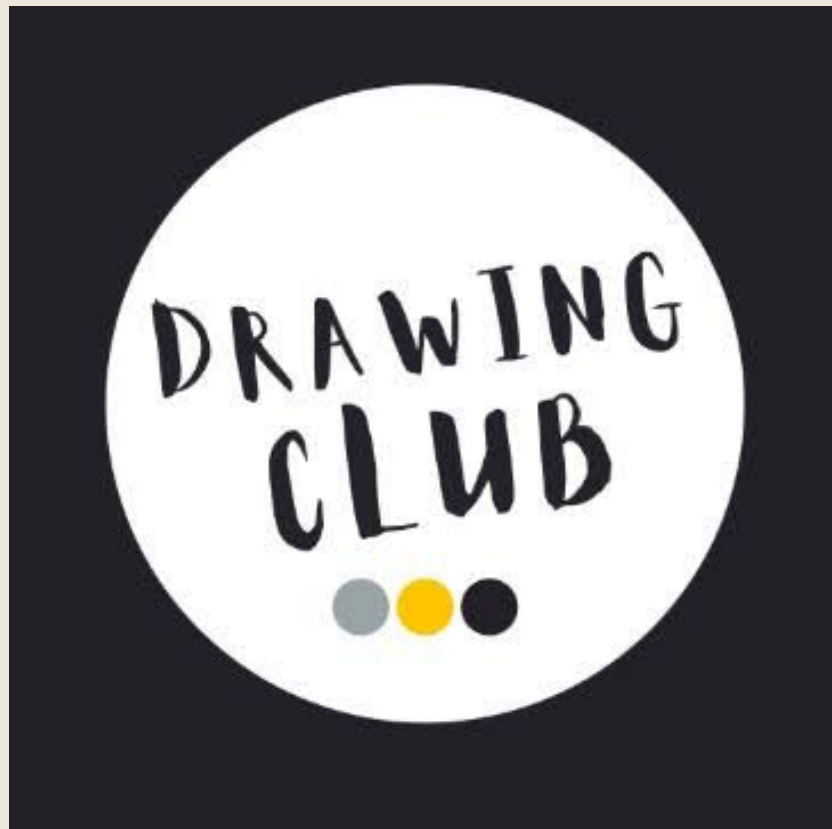
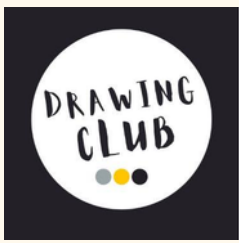




*DRAWING CLUB
@ MARSDEN I AND N SCHOOL*





DRAWING CLUB

What is Drawing Club?

Drawing Club is our exciting approach to developing early writing skills in Reception. Drawing Club was created by Greg Bottrill, it encourages children to use their imagination, creativity and love of stories as a gateway into writing.

Through Drawing Club, children develop a wide range of skills including communication, vocabulary, reading, mark making, early writing and fine motor control. Most importantly, it helps children see writing as something enjoyable, meaningful and fun.

How does Drawing Club work?

Each week, we introduce a new story, animation or short film to spark the children's interest. Together, we explore the characters, settings and events, discussing what might happen and sharing ideas. We encourage children to make predictions, retell events and talk about their own thoughts and opinions. Alongside the story, children learn four new vocabulary words. We use actions, discussion and play to help them remember and use these words confidently in different contexts.

The real magic of Drawing Club comes from encouraging children to think beyond the story. They are invited to imagine what might happen if something changed. Could a character develop a superpower? Could a problem be solved using magic? Could the setting transform into something completely different?

There are no limits to where their imagination can take them.

These rich discussions help children build confidence in speaking and thinking creatively before applying their ideas to writing.

How does Drawing Club support writing?

Every Drawing Club session includes a drawing and a piece of writing. Children add a special "magic button" to their picture and write a "magic code" to make the magic happen. The magic code is carefully matched to each child's stage of development. It may be a letter sound, a word, a caption or a sentence. As children grow in confidence, their writing becomes more detailed and independent. Teachers model writing regularly, showing children how to turn their ideas into written words. Small group sessions provide opportunities for children to practise new skills with support and encouragement, helping them take pride in their writing achievements.

What about non-fiction?

Drawing Club is not limited to stories. Children also explore a range of high-quality non-fiction texts linked to their learning topics. Through these experiences, they learn how to create lists, labels, captions and simple factual sentences, helping them recognise that writing has many different purposes.

Why do we use Drawing Club?

We believe children learn best when they are engaged, inspired and having fun. Drawing Club gives children the freedom to be imaginative while developing the essential foundations needed for reading and writing. By combining stories, talk, drawing and writing, Drawing Club helps children expand their vocabulary, strengthen their communication skills and develop a genuine love of books and writing. It provides a strong foundation for future learning while ensuring that every child sees themselves as a successful writer. 'Codes' Alongside drawings, the children are encouraged to write a 'code word'. These codes make 'magical' things happen to their drawings. As the children draw, they chat about what their ideas are and what they want to happen to their drawing. This makes it joyful and motivating for the children. Codes can be anything the children want it to be: single letters or phonemes, words, phrases or sentences. They give meaning to these codes and the magic happens. Magical things may include: 'it grows wheels and then drives around', 'they change size', 'transform into a rocket' etc...

THE 3MS...

MAKING CONVERSATION:

TALKING CONFIDENTLY, USING NEW VOCABULARY, LISTENING, SHARING IDEAS, HAVING CONVERSATION BACK AND FORTH, COLLABORATING, RESPECTING AND HELPING ONE ANOTHER

MARK MAKING:

WRITING AT THE CUSP OF CONFIDENCE, READING WITH INTEREST, DEVELOPING PHONIC KNOWLEDGE, DISCOVERING THE ART OF MESSAGING, INCREASING FINE MOTOR CONTROL WITH PURPOSE

MATHEMATICS:

DRAWING IS FULL OF MATHEMATICAL OPPORTUNITIES - COUNTING, COMPARING, ADDING, TAKING AWAY, DIVIDING, NUMERAL WRITING AND RECOGNITION - ALL THE TIME BUILDING CONFIDENCE THROUGH PURPOSE

THE TWO SIMPLE STEPS...

STEP 1

10 MINUTE WHOLE CLASS INPUT:

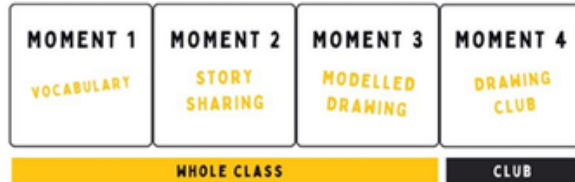
- GET-UP-STAND-UP VOCABULARY WITH ACTIONS
- SHARING THE STORY (MONDAY + TUESDAY)
- MODELLING DRAWING + 3M'ING

STEP 2

DRAWING CLUB:

- GROUPS OF 6
- EXPLORING STORY THROUGH DRAWING
- 3M'ING
- TAKING STORIES ON AN ADVENTURE

THE 4 MINI MOMENTS



Reception Structure

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Mini Moment 1	Vocabulary (2 minutes with actions)	Vocabulary (2 minutes with actions)	
Mini moment 2	Share the story (5 minutes)	Vocabulary (2 minutes with actions)	
Mini moment 3	Adult models drawing (5 minutes) - Character	Adult models drawing (5 minutes) - Setting	Adult introduces and models adventure time (5 minutes)
Mini moment 4	Children's turn - Drawing character and code in books (5-10 minutes)	Children's turn - Drawing setting and code in books (5-10 minutes)	Adventure Time - writing in books (5-10 minutes)



Writing passwords are modelled and across the year build on progressive steps toward the end outcome of writing sentences.

Term	Progression
Autumn	Mark making symbols
	Identified letters from phonics
	CVC words
Spring	CVCC/CCVC words/Tricky words/Captions
Summer	Sentences