



PRESS RELEASE

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What Yr 3&4 Children at Gayhurst School say:

It was a fantastic experience making the mummy with the plaster material
Afiyah, class 3/4K

It was the first time I designed anything on metal sheets and I really enjoyed it.
Johnny, class 3H

I liked the fact we all got to make different things.
Addison, class 3H

It felt good to work in groups
Aaron, class 3H

MUMMY FOUND!

Incredible artefacts have been discovered in Gayhurst School attracting artists and archeologists alike to the site of what can only be described as an ancient Egyptian tomb. Amongst the treasures revealed, a mummy in near perfect condition has been found. Further analysis and research is anticipated as excitement builds toward understanding the historical relevance of the surprise findings.

Explore this archaeological site! Puzzle together precious artefacts and preserve them for future generations. Crack the code to the tomb and obtain a close up view of the interior. Find clues to discover more about the mummy and the life of the Ancient Egyptians.

'MUMMY FOUND!' is designed as an immersive art installation presenting children's artworks from years 3 & 4 at Gayhurst Primary School as historical artefacts within the context of a recently discovered archeological site surrounding an ancient Egyptian tomb.

The exhibition brings learning to life... A series of half day art workshops were delivered by Art Hoppers in response to the curriculum and through a collaborative working relationship with teaching staff. The project aims to enhance children's understanding of their topic '*Ancient Egypt – Temples Tombs and Treasures*'.

Items found in the hidden tomb include a life size, adult mummy of a yet unidentified female believed to be a noble woman of the past. Additional funerary items include a sarcophagus, canopic jars, tomb paintings plus treasures of gold jewellery and beading which each play an important role in the unravelling of who and when the tomb belongs. These items would have served as powerful, symbolic tools with a duty to protect and guide the deceased in their journey through the afterlife.

During the art sessions, different creative techniques were applied in the making of the artefacts. Materials such as plaster of paris or Modroc were used to create the mummy and canopic jars. Plaster engravings of the Sun God Ra, Osiris, Anubis and Horus sit alongside Goddess Isis, Nut and Bastet, emulating the sunk relief stone carvings found in tombs and on temples.

A traditional painting technique using egg tempera was applied in the design of tomb paintings. The pastoral scenes depicting the harvest, fishing and feasting show the importance of the River Nile and ensure the mummy could

magically make real the offerings of food and enjoy eternal nourishment and wellbeing.

Golden treasures crafted from embossing foils show the wealth and beauty of the ancient Egyptians through ornately designed jewellery pieces. These, worn as amulets to protect and empower the wearer were considered of great value through the symbolic meanings of the imagery incorporated or the precious gemstones embedded. Beads made from natural minerals would have been worn for their protective and magical qualities.

The exhibition **#TAG.05 – MUMMY FOUND!**

Open from 22.02.18 – 29.03.18.

VISIT BY APPOINTMENT

t: 020 7254 6138 / e: admin@gayhurst.hackney.sch.uk

www.tagatgayhurst.uk

#TAG is a project commissioned by Gayhurst School, delivered and managed by Hackney based art educationalists, Art Hoppers. www.arthoppers.co.uk

PHOTO for print:

[NEED LINK](#)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#TAG (The Art Gallery) at Gayhurst School is a gallery quality art space and stand alone building within the grounds of Gayhurst Community School, designed specifically as a showcase venue for the exhibition of pupils' artworks. #TAG officially opened at its premier show on Thurs 3rd Nov 2016.

Art Hoppers, run by Hackney based artist Claire Ward-Thornton, have been commissioned by Gayhurst Community Primary School for a second year long artist residency working with two year groups per term from reception to year 6 across the academic year 17/18. Art Hoppers' ethos is to share and promote the inherent creativity of children and to encourage them to see and fully appreciate their talents by presenting their art within a high quality, gallery context.

Art Hoppers work closely with Gayhurst School staff in the delivery of the project to ensure the art programme links well with the children's classroom learning. The art sessions begin with a fun and interactive presentation leading to practical, hands on art making. The activities reinforce and bring to life the topic the children have spent the last few weeks studying and encourages pupils to share their knowledge and awareness of the subject.

Equally, the art sessions allow the children to present their achievements in learning in a visual format. The children enjoy the sessions immensely and have great pride in knowing that their artworks will be displayed to a high standard in the gallery. Each exhibition is launched with a Private View for parents/carers, friends and VIPs and the children host the event, serving themed food and drinks and explaining their work to those attending.

Art Hoppers have designed the dedicated website and branding for #TAG, giving the project a strong sense of identity within the school community and ensuring an accessible archive exists of all artworks created for a long time to come. The children take on responsible roles during the gallery openings giving them the opportunity to enjoy a sense of ownership in the running of their gallery.

Social Media:

#TAG - The Art Gallery at Gayhurst School:

- ≡ www.tagatgayhurst.uk
- ≡ Twitter: @TAGatGayhurst

Art Hoppers:

- ≡ www.arthoppers.co.uk
- ≡ Twitter: @ArtHoppers