

Gamelan

Every year, Year 4 engages in a significant creative project known as Gamelan. This year, the students crafted a narrative about endangered animals from Indonesia. These creatures inhabit the rainforests and oceans of Indonesia and are threatened with extinction due to deforestation and human activities.

The students acquired skills in drawing animals in profile, enabling them to create puppets that can move. They also explored Indonesian Gamelan instruments and learned how to play them. Subsequently, they integrated all three elements to produce a performance featuring Javanese puppets alongside Gamelan music.

Parents were invited to the school to witness the children's performance and savour traditional Indonesian cuisine. Everyone had an enjoyable experience! It was a delightful occasion for parents, children, and teachers alike.

This year, we enhanced the project further by collaborating with a new partner school in Indonesia. The children from our partner school assembled a presentation about Indonesian animals and shared it with the Woodside students via a video call. They discussed how plastic waste is detrimental to marine life and how some species face extinction due to deforestation and other environmental challenges.

We also exchanged information about our respective countries, including the weather, education systems, and favourite subjects. The children even learned some words in Indonesian.

We extended an invitation to the Indonesian ambassador to attend our Gamelan performance, and we were honoured to receive an invitation to visit the Indonesian embassy in London to explore their collection of Gamelan instruments.

