

CASTLE SCHOOL ART CHALLENGE AT FOLLY FARM

(part of Castle School's End of Year Creative)

Traditional lessons were abandoned at the end of term at Castle School when the whole school were invited to discover new skills or indulge in some of their favourite interests during a two day creative where pupils opted for different workshops run by staff who shared hobbies or activities they enjoy when not teaching their usual subject.



On Monday, some pupils chose to attend a brief masterclass given by Mrs Hope, the school's art teacher, and Mrs Lloyd, who is more usually found in the Physics Lab. They were given tips on how best to take photographs, paying particular attention to how to use the camera on their mobile phones, since that was the equipment most pupils chose to use. They were also given an introduction to sketching and using watercolours. They then set off for Folly Farm where they were tasked to sketch and take photos of the animals.

On their return to school, each had to select their favourite image and sketch which they then submitted for judging by one of the staff members at Folly Farm. Mrs Hope said, 'the animals were a fantastic subject for the pupils to draw and photograph and the prize was a great incentive to inspire them to create their best work.'

Gareth Morris, of Folly Farm, had been asked to adjudicate and agreed it had not been easy. However, Meg Harris produced a stunning portrait of a parrot that won out in the end and she was rewarded with a family pass to Folly Farm for her efforts. Pipa Jay and Iris Black were also winners in their categories.



Meg Harris explained that she had stopped creating any artwork since she no longer studied Art at school, but admitted that the experience had inspired her to take up her paintbrushes and in fact she was going to take them with her on holiday to Snowdonia and try to capture the landscape on canvas rather than as the backdrop to a selfie!

