

# Artsmark Gold Award

## Hornbill School strikes gold in national Artsmark Awards



**Hornbill School has proved to be a hit when it comes to arts education and has struck gold in the national Artsmark Awards.**

Hornbill School, serving HQ Brunei Garrison, has achieved one of the **1481** Arts Council England Artsmark awards across the country, announced today. In this seventh Artsmark round, **285** schools achieved Artsmark, **452** Artsmark Silver and **695** achieved Artsmark Gold status. The school is a Service Children's Education School in Brunei, and is the largest isolated 'Rest of the World' school, being 8000 miles away from the network of SCE schools and schools in UK. It is also the first of SCE schools to achieve the GOLD standard of the Award, particularly rewarding in SCE's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year. Four other schools within SCE have now achieved the Artsmark Award (Silver 2, Bronze 2) with more planning to apply in the future.

The Artsmark award recognizes schools that demonstrate a commitment to providing opportunities across all artforms from drama to music, design to literature, dance to sculpture. The scheme encourages schools to work in partnership with artists and arts organizations. The arts can transform lives and raise aspirations and improve opportunities for young people to engage with the arts, at school and through extended curricular activity, is a core priority for the Arts Council.

Mrs Kathy Wood, Headteacher of Hornbill School said:

'I am delighted that the Arts Council has recognized our school's unique efforts to provide a rich, well-balanced arts programme for all our children. We are able to celebrate our cultural diversity to the full through our creative environment, our team of dedicated and motivated staff and children and by working together with our enthusiastic and highly talented parents and community here in Brunei. The Arts Council of Great Britain Artsmark is a prestigious award to receive.

A huge thank you to all staff for their hard work in achieving this award.

Pia Treitlein, Art Subject Leader said " There is a tremendous wealth of arts activities going on here. For example, some of our children have been working on weekly radio broadcasts, others working with our local community experts in dance and performance. Our extended day is a strength of the school with individual staff leading many activities which have given every child the opportunity to get involved with the Arts beyond the school day."

Sir Christopher Frayling, Arts Council England Chair said:

'It is very encouraging to see so many schools displaying such dedication to their arts provision. They are bringing the arts alive for young people and giving them opportunities to get closely involved with a wide range of activities including working within the wider community. My warm congratulations to all those that have achieved a highly deserved Artsmark award this year.'

Our achievement will be published in UK National Press on Friday 8 June.

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