

#Llantwitsunflowers2020



The sunflower is a plant that has strength, endures, stands tall and gives many things back throughout its life. The sunflower brings happiness and is used as a symbol of hope and help. Their lifecycle is a story of renewal and looking forward to the future.

The **Sunflowers** is one of the most popular paintings in the National Gallery. It was painted during a rare period of excited optimism, while Van Gogh awaited the arrival of his hero and friend, the avant-garde painter Paul Gauguin.

Van Gogh painted the Sunflowers quickly and with great energy and confidence. He created a series of four extraordinary sunflower still life paintings, in less than a week during the summer of 1888, when a cold northerly wind prevented him from working outdoors. In 1987, Van Gogh's unsigned Sunflowers copy became the most expensive painting ever sold at auction.

The story of how Van Gogh painted the sunflowers is similar to our experience of lockdown. Usually we would be in the classroom, working together and creating beautiful pieces but at the moment we too must work at home in our 'artist's studio' however that may look.

All members of Llantwit Major School eagerly look forward to meeting our **new year 6 learners** in September. We are all optimistic like Van Gogh and anticipate making new friends in the future, it is that positivity that keeps us moving forward.

Mrs Bevan would like you to take part in our transition project and create your own '**sunflowers of hope for the future**'. These will be coordinated into an online exhibition using the **#Llantwitsunflowers2020**, when we return to school we would like you to bring your original work to school for display. All year 6 transition learners and their families are encouraged to take part.

You can create your own A4 sunflower artwork in any media of your choice, using any composition, in any style. You may do a single sunflower or a group, the choice is yours. Use Van Gogh as an inspiration.

Please email a copy of your artwork to allenm@llantwitschool.org.uk