St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - November 2025

Headteacher News

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for our second International Day on Monday this week. It was a roaring success and so lovely to sample foods from around the world and listen to conversations on origins and cultures of our school community. As a school we have around 37 different languages spoken by our families and we are proud to recognise and celebrate this with our school community. Special thanks to our drummers, led by Edgar, for their wonderful performance and also to Miss Aziz and Miss Kate who organised the event.

Thank you to our Key Stage 2 children and their families who joined us at the Lifting Young Voices concert at All Saints Church this week. It was a lovely occasion with such talent on show from all the choirs and musicians. Huge thanks must go to Emma Smilie from at All Saints, who has been coming into our school on a weekly basis since the start of the year and teaching singing to the children in Key Stage 2. The children are enjoying the lessons and improving week by week.

Thank you to those of you who supported the Poppy Appeal this month and to Year 6 children for reminding us of the importance of Remembrance Day with their class assembly.

I look forward to welcoming you all to our upcoming Nativities and Carol Service. Please do make note of the dates and times of the performances.

God Bless, Mrs Flower

OFFICE HOURS

8.30-4.00 Monday-Friday – closed during school holidays.

SCHOOL HOURS

Registration begins 8.50a.m. (gates open from 8.40am) School finishes 3.15p.m. (Infants/KS1) 3.20p.m. (Juniors/KS2)

Nursery – morning session 8.30-11.30a.m. – afternoon session 12.20-3.20p.m.

CHANGES TO FAMILY DETAILS

For changes to your address, telephone numbers or email address please let the office know either in person or by e-mail.

MEDICATION

If your child needs to receive prescription medicine (4 times a day), medicines need to be brought to the office and parents are asked to complete a 'permission to administer' form.

R.E:

It's been another busy month with a lot to celebrate and lots to look forward to. Just after half-term break, every class in the school created a beautiful door display around their class saint to mark All Saint's Day on the 1st November. You may see these in person or on the website under 'Class saints'.

This Sunday marks the start of Advent, the season of preparation for Christmas in the church's calendar. Each week we will use the Advent wreath to think about ways we can get ready for the birth of Jesus as well as tell the story through the Nativities and Carol Service.

Fr Michael will lead KS2 children in an Advent Reconciliation service followed by optional confessions on Monday 8th December. All are welcome to join us.



Class attendance for November 2025

N = 93.4%
R = 93.2%
Yr1 = 94 %
Yr2 = 97.3%
Yr3 = 96.3%
Yr4 = 97.7%
Yr5 = 95.8%
Yr6 = 96.1%

Congratulations

Year 4



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, The Fairfield, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2UP
Phone: 020 8546 7178 Email: office@stjosephs.rbksch.org Website: www.stjosephs.kingston.sch.uk

Autumn Dates - December 2025

Weds 3rd Dec- Reception Open morning - 9:30 am
Weds 3rd Dec- Y3 & Y4 Rose Theatre trip
Fri 5th Nov- Y2 Kingston Library visit
Mon 8th Dec- Y5 & Y6 Rose Theatre trip
Tues 9th Dec Y1 and Y2 Nativity 'Baarmy Bethlehem' **9:30am**
Wed 10th Dec- Y1 and Y2 Nativity 'Baarmy Bethlehem' **2pm**
Thur 11th Dec - Christmas Jumper & Christmas Lunch Day
Thur 11th Dec - Y2 visit to Cornerstone Church
Fri 12th Nov- Y1 Kingston Library visit
Mon 15th - Nursery and Reception Nativity 'Humph the Camel' **2: 30pm**
Tues 16th Dec- Nursery and Reception Nativity 'Humph the Camel' **9: 30 am**
Thurs 18th Dec KS2 Carol Service at St Raphael's Church **1:30pm**
Friday 19th - last day of term, early finish **1:30pm**

Christmas break 22nd Dec - 5th January 2026

Fun Plus Out of School Club
Breakfast Club 8:00-8:40am
After School 3:15-6pm
Please book using the QR code below

Attendance Policy

Our School attendance policy can be viewed on the School website.
There is a direct link between attendance and attainment. Absence from school interrupts teaching and learning, and affects children's progress and wellbeing.
New legislation states that head teachers may only grant a leave of absence in 'exceptional circumstances'.

Holidays or unauthorised leave in term time will not be granted.

https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

Follow us on instagram

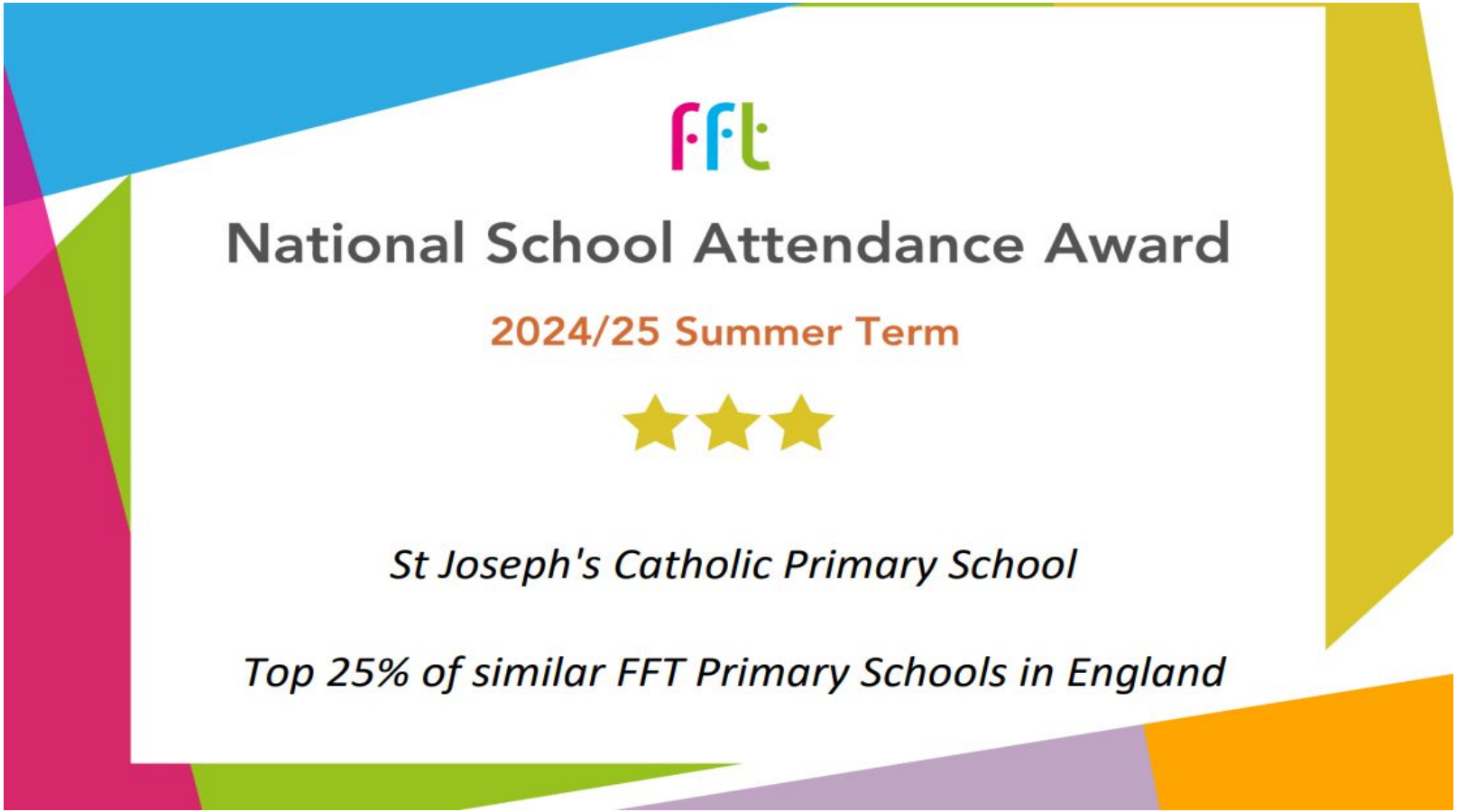
@STJOSEPHS.KINGSTON

Please book you child's ticket via parent pay



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We are proud to announce that St Joseph's has been recognised with a **National School Attendance Award**. This award celebrates our commitment to excellent attendance and highlights the dedication of our pupils, families and staff. Thank you and keep it up!



Safeguarding:

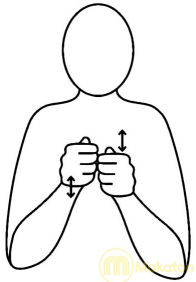
Should you ever have a concern about the welfare of a child or adult, please come and speak in confidence with the school's safeguarding leads. Our Designated Safeguarding Leaders for the school are Mrs Flower, Miss, Devlin, Miss Kate and Miss Aziz. If you cannot speak to us in person we can be contacted via email at: dsl@stjosephs.rbksch.org

Should you not wish to speak to a member of the school team you can contact Kingston's Children's Single Point of Access (SPA).The SPA provides residents and people who work with children in Kingston with direct information, advice and guidance about where and how to find the appropriate support for children and families.

The Single Point of Access team is available from 8am to 5.15pm, Monday to Thursday, 8am to 5pm Friday.Call them on 020 8547 5008, or if you need to speak to someone urgently after hours or at the weekend, call the 'Out of Hours' team on 020 8770 5000.

Makaton

This months signs are…



Brother



Sister

Check out Suzanne and Tracy at the Singing Hands who have lots of wonderful resources online. Please use the link below:
https://singinghands.co.uk/

Appointments

We ask that where possible any appointments are booked outside of the school day. Where this is not possible, or for emergency appointments, please share the appointment confirmation with the school office prior to the appointment in order for the absence to be authorised.

If you need to collect your child early from school due to an appointment, please inform the office in the morning so this information can be shared with the relevant class teacher.
Many thanks for your cooperation.

International Day 2025

On Monday, 24th November, our community came together in a wonderful show of unity to celebrate our diverse cultural backgrounds and the qualities that make each of us unique. The children arrived in clothing representing their nationalities, filling the school with colour, pride and tradition.

Throughout the day, each class took part in cultural workshops, learning about different countries and languages. The celebrations concluded with a vibrant gathering in the hall, where families and friends joined us to share food, enjoy music and experience a memorable performance by our drummers.

We are incredibly grateful to our families, pupils and staff for their enthusiasm and support in making this year's International Day such a joyful and meaningful event.







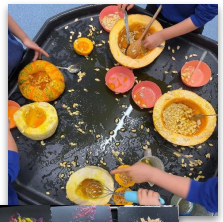


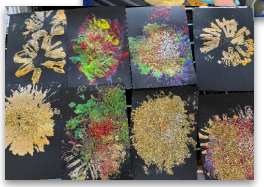






Nursery





This month, the children explored seasonal changes, talking about autumn weather and how we know winter is approaching. We linked this to the story *Stick Man* and enjoyed creating our own characters and homes using junk-modelling materials.

We have celebrated **Bonfire Night** with firework-themed art activities and had great fun exploring pumpkins after reading *Pumpkin Soup*. The children also took part in **Remembrance Day**, joining the two-minute silence and creating poppy artwork and biscuits to mark the occasion.

As part of **Anti-Bullying Week**, we enjoyed Odd Socks Day, read *Simon Sock*, and completed activities celebrating how we are all unique. We also took part in **Positive Noticing Day**, sharing kind thoughts about our friends and making friendship bracelets.
The children also enjoyed a baking activity, making jam tarts while practising turn-taking and fine motor skills!







Reception

Reception have had an action packed month. We started the month learning about our class saint, Saint Nicholas. We decorated a door for All Saints
We then started learning about Space and read about Mae Jemison and her dream of becoming an astronaut.
We even built our very own Space station!



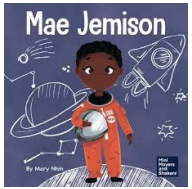




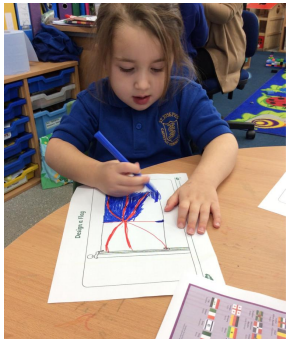


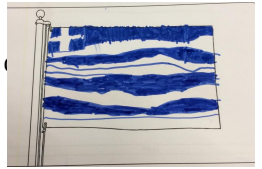
In RE, we have started learning about the season of Advent, looking at the gospel of Luke and his account of Jesus' birth.

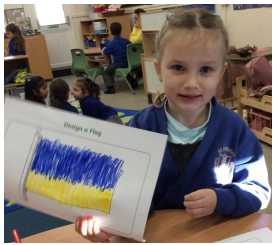




In preparation for International Day, we each made our own flags to represent the different countries we are from.







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Year 1

Year 1 have had such a great half term and have worked so hard! We have had some exciting events such as International day where it was so lovely to see the children come to school dressed in traditional outfits from their own countries. I learnt plenty of interesting facts from the children about their countries.

In English this term we have continued with our class text “Alan’s Big Scary Teeth”. The children’s handwriting and letter formation has been improving so much and they are now able to write some excellent adjectives and expanded noun phrase sentences more independently. We have also been learning about different punctuation such as question marks and exclamation marks and when to use these. It has been great to see so many of the children trying to use these in their writing.

In Maths, we have just finished our addition and subtraction block and have now moved onto studying 2D and 3D shapes. We have played a few dice games throughout the term which the children have enjoyed and also been building towers using 3D shapes.

I also just want to mention how impressed I have been with the children’s oracy development. We have had a few fantastic show and tells this month where the children have spoken confidently about something which interests them in front of the whole class. We have even played some debating games such as “Warewolf” which the children loved. This involved having to discuss with the group who they think is the Warewolf in the group trying to get rid of the innocent villagers. Keep up the amazing work everyone!

Year 2

At the start of Autumn term 2 the children in Year 2 were introduced to a new RE programme of study. Lighting the Path has helped the children to have a deeper understanding of The Annunciation, The Visitation and The Magnificat while studying the topic of Prophecy and Promise.

In science the children have explored living things and their habitats and have learnt how living things adapt to their environment. This understanding also helped them to appreciate how humans have adapted to live in the Arctic in geography.

This term in our writing we have been building upon our understanding of adverbs, regular action verbs and prepositions in our grammar lessons and explored how to use this knowledge within our writing. We have explored how to write recipes, recognising bossy verbs and including time words to organise numbered instructions.

In DT the children thoroughly enjoyed making their healthy wraps using a variety of vegetables. They conducted a taste test before deciding on their ingredients and discussed with each other which ones were their favourite. It was wonderful to hear the next day how much they enjoyed eating their wraps and improving them with additional ingredients.





Year 3

Year 3 have worked extremely hard this month, especially in consolidating their addition and subtraction skills in maths. They have shown great focus and determination—well done, Year 3!

In English, we have started an exciting new book: *Leon and the Place Between.* The children have been fully immersed in our circus theme to bring the story to life. We transformed the classroom with circus music, a parachute floating across the room, and even popcorn to set the scene! Our fantastic teaching assistants joined in by playing drums and juggling. This magical atmosphere has inspired the children as they begin writing their own adventure stories in the style of the book.

In Science, the children are learning about rocks. They have enjoyed handling real rock samples and exploring their different characteristics through close observation.

In Geography, we have started our new topic on *Rainforests*. The children have located the main rainforest regions and explored the countries that sit along the equator.
It has been a wonderful month of learning, and we are very proud of the enthusiasm and curiosity the children continue to show.

Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic few weeks of learning. In English, the children have been working hard to use fronted adverbials and main, subordinate and relative clauses in their writing. We have also been enjoying Rob Lloyd Jones' retelling of *Beowulf* and have spent time immersing ourselves in the language and atmosphere of the story. In maths, the class has been practising their times tables and applying them in different problem-solving contexts. They have also been learning how to multiply and divide by 1 and 0 and have shown great focus throughout.

As part of our Design and Technology topic,, the children have followed a recipe to make their own biscuits. They did brilliantly, and we are now preparing to adapt the recipe before baking a new improved batch.

We have now started our new topic on volcanoes and have already learnt about some famous volcanoes around the world. The children are full of enthusiasm and curiosity, and it has been wonderful to see their excitement as we begin this unit.

Well done to all of Year 4 for their

effort and hard work!



Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic month. It was wonderful to hear the children enjoyed their residential trip to Sayers Croft and came back with lots to tell. It was also a great few days with those who remained at school, completing lots of fun science, art and P.E activities.

This half term, Year 5 have started work on their new unit of English, focusing on the book Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo and are looking forward to using the book to create travel itineraries for their own around the world sailing trip this term. In Maths, we have continued our work on Multiplication and Division, focusing on prime, square and cube numbers recently, before moving onto fractions. In science, we have begun work on Properties of Materials, with the children testing out different solutes to determine whether or not they are dissolvable.

Last week, Year 5 visited the Kingston Third Age Orchestra to watch their rehearsal. The orchestra were kind enough to let the children participate with some pieces and explain the various instruments in the orchestra, as well as letting the children sit next to the instruments of their choice. We will definitely be paying them another visit later in the year!

Year 6

This term in Year 6 has been full of learning, creativity and memorable experiences. We enjoyed a fantastic trip to Kingston Library, where we explored new authors, discovered exciting books and learned more about how libraries support our community.

Back at school, the children showed great maturity and respect while preparing and performing in our Remembrance Day assembly, reflecting thoughtfully on the importance of honouring those who served.

In English, the class took part in a powerful conscience alley activity based on *Rooftoppers*, using drama to explore character decisions and deepen their understanding of the text.

Our involvement in Lifting Young Voices gave pupils an opportunity to celebrate self-expression and develop confidence in speaking and performing.

A highlight of the term was certainly International Day, when the children embraced different cultures, foods and traditions with curiosity and enthusiasm. The children enjoyed making bookmarks in class, focusing on Arabic.

We will also be delighted to welcome Father Michael, who will visit to talk with the children and share insights into the vocation of a Priest.

We are looking forward to our trip to the Rose Theatre to watch Cinderella, in preparation for our Christmas celebrations!

A very busy term thus far for Year 6! Please see a range of of pictures on the school website.

PE

Our Year 2s had a fantastic time taking part in the recent **Football Festival**. The children showed great teamwork, enthusiasm, and sportsmanship throughout the event.
We are very proud of their efforts and the way they represented our school.





■ Tuesday Take Off! ■

Morning Activity Sessions for All Pupils

■ **Launching:** Tuesday 7th October

■ **Location:** KS2 Playground

■ **Time:** 8:25 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.

What is *Tuesday Take Off!*?

A fun, active start to the school day! Children can enjoy a variety of equipment and activities before heading into class, ready to learn.

■ Open to **all pupils**

■ **Voluntary** – join in if you'd like!

■ Supported by **Year 6 Sports Leaders**

Why join in?

- A healthy, energetic start to the day
- Fun with friends before lessons
- Builds focus and readiness for learning

■ Come along, get moving, and start your Tuesday with a boost! ■

WELLBEING NEWS

Future coffee mornings

If you have any suggestions for future coffee mornings that you would like us to hold, please complete the feedback form - https://forms.gle/zFQf2YLDGY63HWut9

Rainbows

St Joseph's is a rainbows registered school. We provide a structured 12-14 week program to assist children and young people through grief and loss facilitated by trained staff with small groups of children. Rainbows provides age related materials and supports self-esteem, trust, confidence and resilience. It promotes emotional development and positive, healthy relationships for children who are grieving through a death, divorce, separation or any other painful transition in their lives.

Please get in touch with Kate Shaw Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead for more details Kshaw@stjosephs.rbksch.org 0208 546 7178.



Mental Health Support Team at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

The Mental Health Support Team are an early intervention service from Achieving for children, supporting children and young people's wellbeing across schools in Kingston & Richmond.

The MHST will continue to offer varied early intervention support for common wellbeing difficulties this academic year. You can view information about the upcoming parent workshops we are offering on the school website, under the Child & Family Wellbeing Lead section.

If you have any questions or would like further information on how to access support, you can speak with your child's class teacher or the Mental Health Lead; Miss Kate Shaw. Alternatively, you can complete the self-referral form on the school website.

https://www.stjosephs.kingston.sch.uk/child-family-wellbeing-lead/

achieving for children

WELLBEING NEWS



Express CIC Quiz Night

Fri 14 Nov | The cornerHOUSE Arts Centre

Join Express CIC for the Express Quiz Night hosted by Beth the clubs lead..
£5 per team. MemberAge 12+ under 18s to be accompanied by an adult.
Please book tickets in advance.

https://www.expresscic.org.uk/event-details/express-cic-quiz-night?ct=t%28Express+CIC+Events+book+your+space+Apr+25_COPY_01%29&mc_cid=38afcb9811&mc_eid=acdbbe23f8

Wellbeing Mornings in the Community

Queen Mary Hall , Cambridge Gardens , Kingston upon Thames, KT1 3NJ
All welcome on the first Friday of every month at Queen Mary Hall, where volunteer-run charity RBKares and local partners support the mental, physical, financial and digital health of local residents in need. This free one-stop shop of vital services includes health checks, liver scans, haircuts, employment support, bike repairs, energy vouchers, benefit support, mental health support, Simcards, clothes, toiletries, as well as delicious soup and cake.

SKYLARKS

Skylarks offer a huge range of activities for children with SEND needs and their families such as -
events, activities, talks, workshops, clinics and therapies

https://www.skylarks.charity/whats-on?utm_source=Skylarks+main+mailing+list&utm_campaign=e75e550fcf-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2025_09_02_08_54_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-f58311dd8c-684049514

Warm Spaces www.kingston.gov.uk

In this time of crisis, Warm Spaces in the borough are opening up to the public. As part of Kingston's partnership response to the Cost of Living Crisis, there is a focus on using existing buildings and spaces across the borough which are easily accessible to residents, offering warm, welcoming and safe spaces for residents to come together. You can find more information via

Connected Kingston.

achieving for children

Local Adverts

Get in the game! Junior Girls Cricket at Hampton Wick Royal Cricket Club

Calling all young girl cricketers in Kingston, Richmond and Hounslow! Hampton Wick Royal is a friendly and welcoming club that offers junior cricket for all abilities, from beginners to more experienced players. We have a strong focus on developing skills, teamwork, and most importantly, having fun!



What we offer:

Fun and engaging coaching: Qualified coaches provide a supportive environment for learning and improving. Masterclasses from current and past professionals. Winter training starts in January

Various age groups: We cater for different age groups, from All Stars (ages 5-8) to Dynamos (ages 8-11) and older age groups with competitive matches.

Competitive opportunities: We participate in local Surrey and Middlesex leagues for u9s –u14s.

All equipment provided: No need to worry about gear – we provide everything you need to get started.

Experienced and DBS checked coaches: Your child's safety is our priority.

Parental involvement: We encourage parents to get involved and support our junior program.

For more information or to ask questions, contact James Watson by clicking on QR code; emailing j.watson@heathfield-jun.richmond.sch.uk or phone 07801572809

Hampton Wick Girls U11's
WhatsApp group

Club based at Hollyfield School
KT6 4TU



www.jigsaw-arts.co.uk/

Local Adverts

JUNIOR GOLF ACADEMY LONDON

CHRISTMAS 2025 CAMPS COOMBE WOOD GOLF CLUB

MORNING CAMPS
(Aimed at Beginner to Intermediate Level)
AGES 5 - 13 YEARS GOLF CAMPS

£45 per child, per class (10% discount for current Junior Academy Members)
Start the day with fun and focused golf! Our camps blend practice, learning, and play across the course and facilities. With guidance from professional coaches and plenty of challenges, players sharpen skills in a relaxed, supportive setting.



DATES & TIMES
Monday 15TH December 8:30am – 11:30am
Tuesday 16th December 8:30am – 11:30am
Wednesday 17th December 8:30am – 11:30am
Thursday 18th December 8:30am – 11:30am
Monday 22nd December 8:30am – 11:30am
Monday 29th December 8:30am – 11:30am
Tuesday 30th December 8:30am – 11:30am
Friday 2nd January 8:30am – 11:30am
Monday 5th January 8:30am – 11:30am

AFTERNOON CAMPS
(Intermediate & above, not beginners)
AGES 10 – 16+ YEARS PLAYING CAMPS

£45 per child, per class (10% discount for current Junior Academy Members)
Our Course Camps give juniors the chance to take their game from the practice area to the course, gaining valuable real-world playing experience under expert guidance. Each session begins with a focused short game clinic, where players work on essential scoring skills such as chipping, pitching, and putting. After the clinic, participants head out for 6–10 holes of guided play, learning course strategy, shot selection, and pace-of-play skills along the way.

These camps are ideal for juniors who already have some on-course experience and are ready to develop their confidence and independence in real playing situations. To ensure the best learning experience for everyone, suitability will be confirmed before booking.

DATES & TIMES
Monday 15TH December 11:45- 2:45pm
Tuesday 16th December 11:45- 2:45pm
Wednesday 17th December 11:45- 2:45pm
Thursday 18th December 11:45- 2:45pm Academy only
Monday 22nd December 11:45- 2:45pm
Monday 29th December 11:45- 2:45pm
Tuesday 30th December 11:45- 2:45pm
Friday 2nd January 11:45- 2:45pm
Monday 5th January 11:45- 2:45pm

DADS AND DAUGHTERS PORTRAIT PAINTING WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE

HOSTED BY: CASS ART KINGSTON KT1 1QY

SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER
11:00 AM – 17:00 PM

DAUGHTERS AGED 10-15

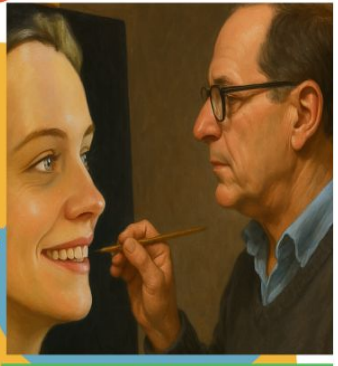
LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

WEAR OLD CLOTHES YOU DONT MIND GETTING PAINT ON. TIE BACK YOUR HAIR - DADS MUST SUPERVISE THEIR DAUGHTERS AT ALL TIMES

REGISTER NOW AT!

HTTPS://RORYMAGUIRE.CARGO.SITE

THIS IS A RARE, CREATIVE, HANDS-ON WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE FOR FATHERS TO PAINT THEIR DAUGHTERS. PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN A SIMPLE PORTRAIT APPROACH (NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE NEEDED), PAINT A KEEPSAKE PORTRAIT OF THEIR DAUGHTER AND



THIS IS A FREE WORKSHOP BUT