

Royal Academy of Arts

Young Artists' Summer Show

The Royal Academy of Arts Young Artists' Summer Show is an annual, free, open-submission exhibition for students aged 4–19 across the UK. It celebrates creativity in all its forms—showcasing paintings, sculptures, digital artwork and more—selected by a panel of artists and industry professionals. Exhibited pieces will appear both online and at the RA in London.

This year, ten talented children from St Joseph's submitted their artwork to the exhibition. Their entries are now being carefully reviewed by a panel of art professionals, who will choose which pieces will appear in the online gallery and which will be displayed in the in-person exhibition in London this summer. The judges are expected to finalise their choices soon, and participants will receive the results by the end of May. We are keeping our fingers crossed for our St Joseph's artists!

The on-site exhibition will take place at the Royal Academy of Arts (Weston Studio, Burlington House) and will run from 14 July to 30 August 2026. This inspiring event aims to champion the next generation of artists and nurture creativity in education.

We are delighted to share with you the wonderful submissions from our St Joseph's children, along with the descriptions they provided about their inspiration and the materials they used. All the artists proudly presented their work during today's assembly, and we hope you enjoy browsing our mini-gallery over the next few pages.

A huge well done to all the children who took part in this exciting opportunity!



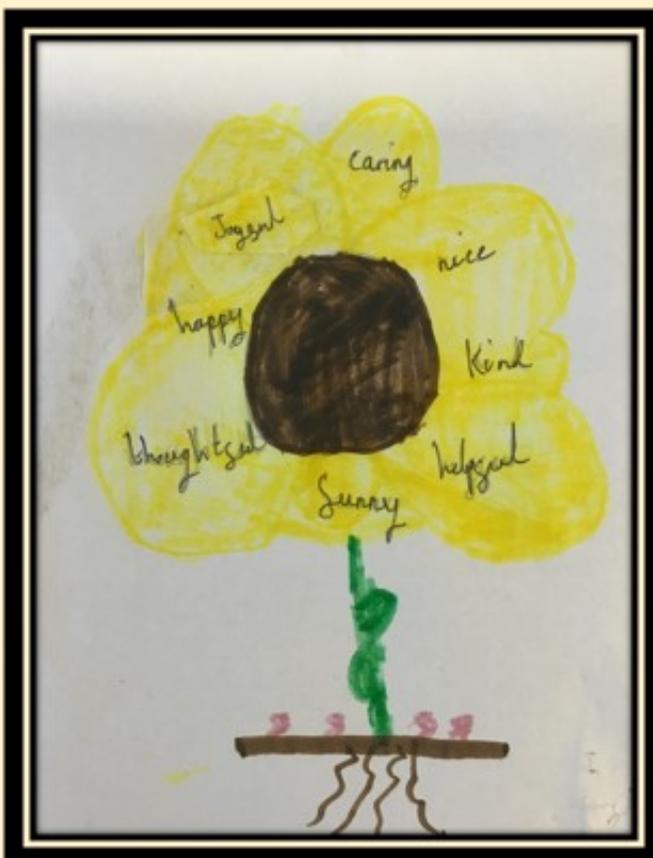


The Northern Lights

The inspiration for this piece of artwork is the Northern Lights. I personally am fascinated by the Northern Lights and the bold and vibrant colours that appear in the sky.

I chose to do a painting that captures a peaceful, magical moment that is full of wonder through a young child's perspective – just like mine.

Serena Year 5 – age 9



The Sunflower

I drew a sunflower because sunflowers are beautiful. They remind me to always shine brightly, stand tall and always think positively. My sunflower reminds me to always try to be my best self.

Ariya – Year 3 – age 7



Anna – Year 3 – age 8



My Special Cloud

When I was a baby I loved looking at the fluffy white clouds in the bright blue sky. They made me dream big dreams with their changing shapes and fuelled my imagination. I see clouds as magic!

I feel sad that people are hurting the earth and the sky might fill with dark clouds one day.

I painted my special cloud on a sunny day to preserve it for the future.



Axolotls

I love axolotls. They are amphibians. They come in lots of different colours. I have got a toy axolotl which is blue and green like my picture. They live in water and they are my favourite animals.

Leona -Year 1 - age 5

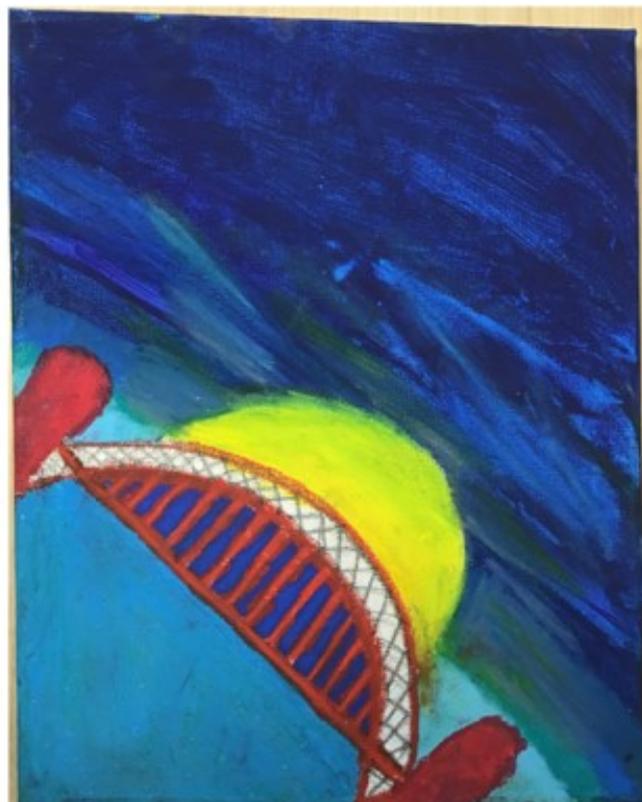


Animals in the Forest



I love the forest. It has lots of tall trees. There are lots of animals in the forest. I like animals. I have drawn a reindeer and a squirrel in my picture. I used paint to do this and used my finger and paintbrushes.

Noah – Reception – Age 5



Sydney Harbour

My mum went to Australia and brought me back a postcard of Sydney Harbour. I was intrigued by the vibrant colours of the postcard so I wanted to express my inner-artist by creating a canvas using paint and pastels to show the variety of colours in the postcard.

I added a sunset as I find sunsets very beautiful and it adds to the depth of the colours in my canvas.

Kaylan – Year 6 – age 10



Olivia
Year 2 - age 7

The Unicorn

Look very carefully – can you see the unicorn?

I decided to paint a unicorn because I love them. When I finished I wanted to keep going so I painted hidden cats faces too – can you see them? I also added some gold using my fingers. I love using colourful details especially stars and rainbows.

I have an easel and so does my Nanny Kelly – we paint next to each other which is lots of fun!

Creating Mischief



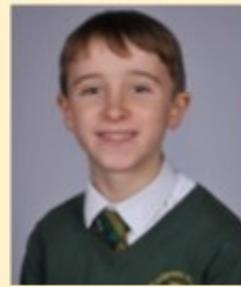
This artwork shows a group of magpies sitting together on a branch.



A group of magpies is called a “mischief”.

The name for a group of magpies was the inspiration for the title of my piece. I used mixed media and textures to bring the birds to life and make them stand out against the water coloured soft sky. I imagine the magpies chatting and being playful together.

Penelope – Year 5 – Age 9

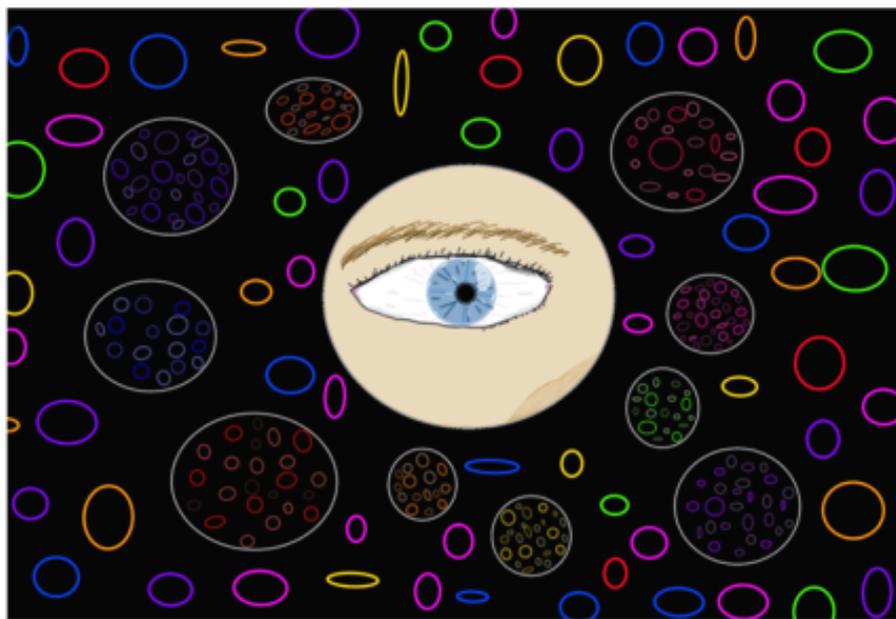


Crocosmia

I drew a Crocosmia because they represent my happy place. What inspires me about these flowers is that they are not all the same – but they are all beautiful – this is the same with humanity.

The second thing I love about this flower is the colour of the petals. It reminds me of my favourite season which is autumn. The orange reminds me of bonfire night.

Ethan Turnock – Year 5 – age 10



The Colours of the Colour Blind

The picture represents colour blind people; well, everyone sees colours differently. Right? Maybe your friends see colours differently to you. I might see things the same as you! Even your pets see in different colours, you never know.

When I was little, I thought everyone sees the same colours, but they don't. I always wanted to see other people's vision.

Philippa- Year 3 – age 8