

ROSSLYN CHAPEL 1446

Schools Programme
2023-2024

SANDFORD
AWARD



2022 - 2027
QUALITY ASSURANCE FOR
HERITAGE EDUCATION

www.rosslynchapel.com

Welcome

Rosslyn Chapel was founded in 1446 by Sir William St Clair, 11th Baron of Rosslyn and Prince of Orkney. It is world famous for its mysterious and ornate stone carvings of plants, scenes and characters from the Bible, Green Men (faces with leaves growing from their mouths), and even monsters and dragons. Since it was built it has intrigued and inspired writers, artists and visitors, including Sir Walter Scott, Robert Burns and Queen Victoria. More recently it featured in the best-selling novel 'The Da Vinci Code' by Dan Brown, and in the Hollywood blockbuster film of the book starring Audrey Tautou and Tom Hanks.

With such a variety of stories and subject matter, Rosslyn Chapel is a wonderful source for inspiring learning across the curriculum. Our schools programme offers a wide variety of learning experiences for primary school children across all levels. From dragon hunts, storytelling and creative movement for the little ones to STEM, creative writing and living history for upper primary, the Chapel offers a rich array of resources to support and complement classroom learning.

The award-winning Junior Tour Guides programme offers a unique opportunity for children to experience a peer-led costumed performance and tour, given by Roslin Primary School P7s. Performances take place between October and December and are in high demand so book before you miss it!

Finally, the Lost Chronicles of Rosslyn series is a chance for classes to work in depth with a drama practitioner to explore the story of the Chapel, discuss moral dilemmas, investigate historical sources, and create their own drama based on what they have learnt.

All our learning programmes are free and transport costs for schools in Midlothian are covered by Rosslyn Chapel.

For more information, please email me at learning@rosslynchapel.com.

Sarah Chapman
Learning and Outreach Co-ordinator



Junior Tour Guides

A completely free opportunity for your class to visit the Chapel and be taken on a dramatic costumed tour led by P7s from Roslin Primary School. Travel costs for Midlothian schools are covered by Rosslyn Chapel.

Hurry as places are limited and book up fast! All performances take place on Thursdays 10am—11am.

Booking is essential - email learning@rosslynchapel.com

Performance Dates:

- Thursday 26 October
 - Thursday 2 November
 - Thursday 9 November
 - Thursday 16 November
 - Thursday 23 November
 - Thursday 30 November
 - Thursday 7 December
 - Thursday 14 December
-

Feedback from previous schools and teachers

“P7s as guides! It was so engaging – excellent!”

“We loved it. Thank You. Feeling inspired to follow up in class. Well done.”

“The amount of hard work and commitment that has been put into their performances was obvious and has been well worth it.”



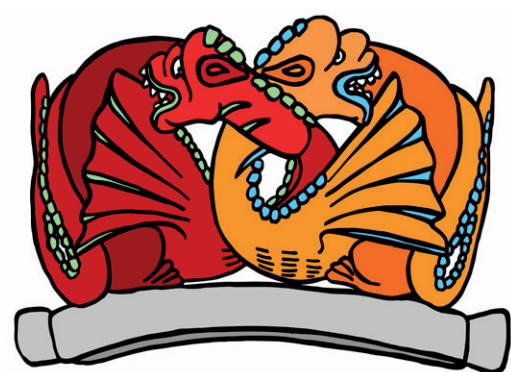
To book a place, or if you have any questions about content, learning outcomes or logistics email learning@rosslynchapel.com

School Workshops

Rosslyn Chapel offers a variety of free workshops for all primary school ages. Workshops take place at the Chapel on Wednesday mornings between October and April. To book a workshop email learning@rosslynchapel.com. Travel costs for Midlothian schools are covered by Rosslyn Chapel.

NEW! Medieval Experience - A Living History Day with Rosslyn Chapel (P4-P7)

Learn by doing - the medieval way! This full-day workshop offers a deep dive into some medieval hand skills, bringing history and the Middle Ages to life. Visit the Chapel in the morning with a follow-up session back at school in the afternoon. The children will meet a variety of living history characters and try out hands-on activities related to stonemasonry, braiding and calligraphy.



Dragons in a Twist (P1-P3)

A full-day experience, with a visit to Rosslyn Chapel in the morning and a follow-up session back at school in the afternoon. Your class will discover the dragons in the stone carvings and glasswork, followed by storytelling in the Lady Chapel and a dragon craft in the Visitor Centre. After lunch Chapel staff come out to school and lead a creative movement session inspired by the dragons in the Chapel.

“The ideas of exploring dragons, green men and enchanting trees just really captured their imaginations.”

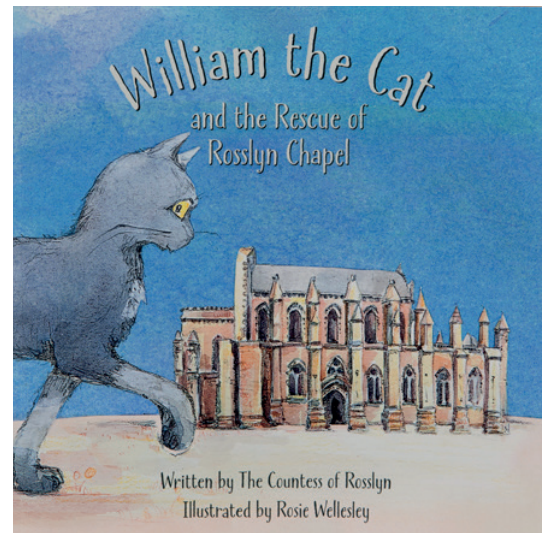
P1-2 Teacher
Moorfoot Primary School

William the Cat (P3-P4)

Read the book 'William the Cat and the Rescue of Rosslyn Chapel' in class, and then come and visit us. The children will learn about the building as a historic site and conservation project, do a scavenger hunt to discover all the carvings that inspired the characters in the book and talk to the Chapel staff about their memories of William the Chapel cat. The first time a class from your school books this workshop we will send a free copy of 'William the Cat and the Rescue of Rosslyn Chapel' for your school library.

"The children were so excited to visit the Chapel and to bring their classroom learning to life... We have been able to extend our learning back in the classroom and use the resources you provide online."

P3 teacher
Sacred Heart RC Primary School



Green Man Poetry (P5-P7)

Drawing on both the famous Green Man nature carvings and the Viking references in the Chapel, this workshop explores different ways the Chapel can provide inspiration for writing poetry. Your class will practise the Norse "kennings" technique and delve into the classic poem 'Green Man in the Garden' by Charles Causley. They will then start writing their own poetry inspired by the stunning nature carvings in the Chapel.

"Very stimulating and engaged the learners. Great poems produced."

P7 teacher
Rosewell Primary School



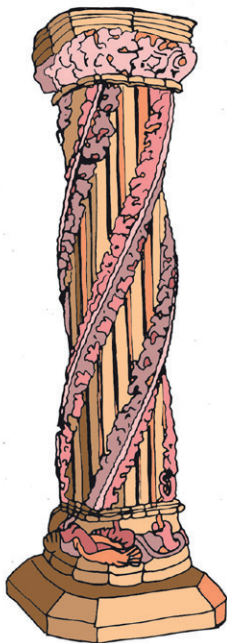
A Story in Stone (P5-P7)

A STEM workshop that explores the science and engineering of Rosslyn Chapel as a stone structure. Pupils will tour the Chapel building and learn to recognise key architectural features of the Gothic style. The class will then split into three groups and rotate through activities that support learning in the following topics:

- Science (geology, properties of stone)
- Engineering (structure, weight-bearing)
- Maths (especially shapes)

“It was really good for the children to learn about the different types of stone, how each one is created and even learn that stone is as old as it is – it was just fascinating.”

P7 Teacher
Niddriemill Primary School



Lost Chronicles of Rosslyn - advance notice for Autumn 2024

We are excited to offer a unique longer-term opportunity to P5-P7 classes. Lost Chronicles of Rosslyn is an inquiry-based drama project delivered over several sessions. Working with a drama practitioner both at school and at Rosslyn Chapel, pupils explore the history of the Chapel, discuss moral dilemmas, investigate historical sources and create their own drama based on what they have learnt. Choose from one of the two scenarios below.

A Very Cold Case (P5-P6)

A drama-based detective mystery exploring the famous legend of Rosslyn's "apprentice pillar". Using imaginative drama, logic and active learning pupils solve a mystery and uncover a medieval murder story, exploring the rights and wrongs and motivations behind the characters and action.

The Time Machine (P6-P7)

A history meets sci-fi drama investigation with a hefty dose of fiction, The Time Machine delves into key moments in the story of Rosslyn Chapel. Based on the premise that key documents recording the creation of Rosslyn Chapel once existed but are now lost, pupils work in teams to learn about aspects of life from medieval times through to the Victorian era, recreate the "lost" documents and fill in some vital missing pieces from the Chapel's history, saving the world from imminent catastrophe in the process! The project culminates in the performance of a drama created by the pupils themselves for family and friends at Rosslyn Chapel.

"A fantastic experience!"

Teacher feedback
Lasswade Primary School

For more information about how your class could take part in the Lost Chronicles of Rosslyn, email learning@rosslynchapel.com

www.rosslynchapel.com

Rosslyn Chapel Trust is a charity registered in Scotland. Number SC024324